

**State Wildlife Action Plan  
&  
Integrated Natural Resource  
Management Plan  
Workshop**

**Workshop Summary**

**May 9-10, 2006  
Atlanta, Georgia**



## Executive Summary

On May 9 – 10, 2006, the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment) (DUSD(IE)) and the Department of Defense Legacy Program, with support from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (formerly the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies) sponsored a State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) and Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) Workshop. The workshop was hosted at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. There were 45 participants from a variety of organizations including, but not limited to DUSD(IE), the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Agency and other interested Federal agencies (*Appendix A*). The purpose of this workshop was to bring together natural resource managers from military installations, state wildlife agency personnel and US Fish and Wildlife Service personnel to integrate SWAPs and INRMPs by identifying common problem areas and common goals of the region. The hope was that through this workshop, regional pilot projects, goals and partnerships could be established that would assist in the way in which natural resources are managed in the Southeast.

The first day of the workshop began with introductory remarks by Bruce Beard of DUSD(IE), Alex Beehler of DUSD (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health (ESOH)) and Secretary Bill Ross of the NC Department of Environment & Natural Resources. The three gentlemen described the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) that was created in summer 2005, and the effects and possibilities that this workshop could have on that partnership and vice versa. Following these remarks, presentations were given by Dave

Chadwick (Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies), Peter Boice (DoD Conservation Program) Scott Van Horn (NC Wildlife Resource Commission), Pete Campbell (US FWS), and John Townsend (Camp Lejeune) describing their respective organizations and approaches to cooperative regional planning (*Appendices B- E*).

The remainder of the day was spent in breakout groups attempting to answer some fundamental questions relating to integration of the SWAPs and INRMPS (*Appendix F and Table 2.1*).

During a working dinner, participants were encouraged to sit with members from their respective regions and consider possible pilot projects that could be discussed further the following day and later implemented. Groups generally broke into groups by state, and crafted a variety of project ideas (*Appendix G*).

From the list generated at dinner the evening before, on the second day, participants identified four projects and divided into their respective groups. Breakout group questions were provided to guide the discussion and focus the groups on some key issues (*Appendix H*). Each group was tasked to determine the next steps needed to ensure the implementation of the project. After the pilot project report-outs, the workshop concluded with the entire group identifying next steps for the group as a whole. Summaries of the pilot project and next steps appear below.

## **Pilot Projects\***

### **(1) *Invasive Species*** (South Carolina & expanding)

- Identify areas/potential sites for habitat conversion to clear invasive species while not hindering native species
- Group likely to expand as necessary

### **(2) *Species at Risk*** (NC/Coastal (TBD after initial survey))

- Assess and determine the most important Species at Risk for NC
- Group likely to expand into South Carolina as necessary

### **(3) *FL Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS)/ INRMP Articulation Project***

- Discuss integration of State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies and INRMPs
- Facilitate INRMP reviews/process under the requirements of the Sikes Act
- Conduct annual meetings in the Eglin AFB region, NAS Jacksonville region and Avon Park region

### **(4) *The Georgia Project***

- Identify lands of mutual interest and discuss ways to protect partners' respective missions
- Potential focus on threatened and endangered species, as well as species at risk (e.g., gopher tortoise)
- Follow-up meeting planned for June

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\* Some action items identified in this Summary have already been completed. For up to date information, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/denix/Public/Library/NCR/inrmp.html?fm-natres>



## **Workshop Next Steps<sup>\*</sup>**

- Construct a space on DENIX for information posting
- Send thank you letters from Mr. Beehler and Sec. Ross to the supervisors of the attendees
- Follow-up meeting for the large group in 12-18 months

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<sup>\*</sup> Some action items identified in this Summary have already been completed. For up to date information, please visit: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/denix/Public/Library/NCR/inrmp.html?fm-natres>

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## Introduction

The Department of Defense is responsible for creating programs and implementing management strategies to conserve and protect biological resources on its lands. DoD develops and implements Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) at its installations to ensure military operations and natural resources are integrated and consistent with stewardship and legal requirements while ensuring no net loss to the military mission.

Similarly, state wildlife agencies are responsible for managing and conserving all resident fish and wildlife species. As part of that responsibility, and as a requirement of the federal State Wildlife Grants program, every state has recently completed a State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), known technically as a Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. The SWAPs outline the actions that are needed to conserve wildlife and vital natural areas before they become too rare and costly to protect. The completion of the SWAPs was a momentous step forward in the management of protection of wildlife in the United States.

During INRMP development, installations are required to consult with the state wildlife agency for the state in which the installation resides, as well as with the US Fish and Wildlife Service when determining their course of action. Similarly, the state wildlife agencies are required to consult with federal agencies and other plans (e.g. US Forest Service Land Management Plans) when creating the state wildlife action plans. However, the degree to which each organization involves the other varies greatly. By bringing together the key stakeholders in the Southeast region, partnerships and projects can be crafted to integrate SWAPs and INRMPs.

The Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) has experienced success in terms of gathering the region as a whole and working together to forge a partnership and craft regional projects. For this

reason, the four southeast states (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida) were chosen to participate in the pilot SWAP/INRMP Workshop. As anticipated, participants recognized other states and partners (e.g. Alabama, National Marine Fisheries Service, etc.) that will need to be included in various capacities in future meetings- especially at the local and state levels. However, this workshop helped to forge initial partnerships that will serve as the basis for future collaboration.

In January 2006, the Department of Defense (DoD), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU indicates that the three parties have entered into a cooperative program of INRMP development and implementation with mutually agreed upon fish and wildlife conservation objectives to satisfy the goals of the Sikes Act. This workshop directly supports the goals and objectives set forth by the MOU.

By working together, the Department of Defense, the state wildlife agencies and other relevant agencies are in a position to prioritize collaboratively how conservation dollars are spent, encourage implementation of projects that are mutually beneficial, promote information and data sharing, and assist with the review and updating of SWAPs, INRMPs and other planning efforts.

## Day One -- May 9, 2006

The workshop opened with introductory remarks by Bruce Beard of Office of the Deputy Under Secretary Defense (Installations and Environment) (DUSD(IE)). He described the purpose of the workshop – to bring together groups of people that are working *near* each other, but not necessarily *with* each other - and gave some general information regarding the structure of the workshop. Alex Beehler of the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environment, Safety, Occupational Health) (DUSD (ESOH)) spoke next, providing a very broad overview of INRMPs, and the way in which Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) and State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) could be integrated to better manage the land surrounding installations. Mr. Beehler described the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Department of Defense (DoD), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), in which all parties agreed to work collaboratively to produce the most comprehensive plans possible. The last set of opening remarks were from Secretary Bill Ross of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Secretary Ross discussed the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and how this workshop contributes to that larger effort. The primary goal of SERPPAS is to identify regional sustainability issues which cross federal, state and local geographic and civil borders. He reiterated that any projects that developed as a result from this workshop are likely to influence and strengthen the larger partnership efforts of the entire Southeast.

The morning continued with Dave Chadwick from AFWA presenting an overview of State Wildlife Action Plans (*Appendix B*). As of October 2005, all states had prepared a Wildlife Action Plan (available online at [www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)), that details the state actions necessary to prevent wildlife from extinction. The plans include ideas for specific conservation projects as well as suggestions on ways to educate the public about effective conservation practices. Mr. Chadwick

emphasized the need for collaboration and partnership with military installations, since wildlife issues continue beyond the fence line. He closed by encouraging the participants to become familiar with and learn from each other.

Peter Boice of DUSD (I&E) spoke next, providing an overview of INRMPs (*Appendix C*). He described the Sikes Act, which requires installations to create INRMPs, and also delineates the required elements that must be contained in the INRMP. The INRMP planning teams are obligated, by law, to involve USFWS and the appropriate state wildlife agency to ensure proper consideration of fish and wildlife. However, the degrees to which the US FWS and the States are consulted has varied. For example, the agencies sometimes have only reviewed INRMPs, and have not been intimately involved in the creation and revision process. Mr. Boice reiterated the hope that this workshop would promote increased communications and forge partnerships which extend into the future. Finally, Mr. Boice informed the group of additional INRMP tools that are available to further describe INRMP development, implementation and best practices.

Scott Van Horn provided a brief overview of how the state of North Carolina has partnered with the military in numerous projects to provide for conservation and preservation, and then introduced Pete Campbell of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and John Townson of Camp Lejeune.

Pete Campbell spoke about the North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership (*Appendix D*). Created in 2000, the Partnership seeks to keep the development and implementation of conservation strategies within North Carolina consistent with the compatible land use objectives of the partners. The Partnership consists of seven organizations and members belong to a variety of working groups focusing on specific projects and conservation efforts. Additionally, the Partnership as a whole reaches out to other existing partnerships and collaborative groups in the area that are also focusing on the

Sandhills. Working together, over 12,000 acres of land for habitat protection/training and public use have been acquired. Additionally, 49,000 acres of private lands have been enrolled in Safe Harbor to provide habitat for 56 red-cockaded woodpecker clusters. Mr. Campbell concluded by stressing the success of this Partnership and its ability to make a difference in North Carolina through collaborative planning.

The final presentation was delivered by John Townson from US Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune (*Appendix E*). In 2001, the Onslow Bight Conservation Forum was formed with participation by over ten organizations reaching into nine counties. In the past five years, the Forum has developed a charter, defined their mission and established regular meetings. Goals of the Forum include encouraging public/private partnerships among participating agencies and private land owners, promoting conservation, restoration, health and sustainable use of the landscape and enhancing coordination among the participants. Over 2,500 acres of land near key training ranges has been preserved, and the Forum continues to look for opportunities for preservation and conservation.

Once presentations concluded, Kim Fleming reviewed the break out session instructions and questions for Day One (*Appendix F*). The remainder of the day was spent in groups discussing some of the fundamental questions and considerations associated with integrating different plans (Table 2-1).

**TABLE 2-1**

**Considerations When Integrating SWAPs and INRMPs**

<i>Breakout Questions Presented to Groups</i>	<i>Ideas/Answers Generated During Break Out Session</i>
I. Benefits of integrating INRMPs and State Wildlife Action Plans processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows for common goals, needs, and resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improves overall efficiency</li> <li>▪ Specifically, more efficient utilization of public funds</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Pooling of resources advances public participation activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improves public support</li> <li>▪ Provides the public with a common message</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Eliminating duplicate efforts improves efficiency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opens resources for priority projects</li> <li>▪ Standardizing data collection advances data sharing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• SWAPs can give INRMPs a landscape perspective</li> <li>• Assists in the prioritization of the INRMP process</li> <li>• Gives big picture contexts to INRMPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Makes less myopic</li> <li>▪ Highlights consistency of actions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bridges multiple agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improves motivation and understanding of needs of the partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Illustrates how military installations fit into the state's bigger picture</li> <li>• Maximizes the strengths of all stakeholders</li> <li>• Allows local implementation of the large scale state plans</li> <li>• Provides consistency in conservation management</li> <li>• Advances buffer land efforts</li> <li>• Reduces islands of biodiversity</li> <li>• Leads to more effective ecosystem management</li> </ul>
II. Existing communication barriers between states, installations and DoD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General lack of understanding of state and DoD topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The military mission</li> <li>▪ Funding process</li> <li>▪ Data language and methodology</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Time constraints, excess workload, and understanding the needs of all actors creates barriers</li> <li>• Service branches differ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communication style</li> <li>▪ Organizational approach of natural resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DoD unaware of SWAPs</li> <li>• Ignorance of joint land use studies (JLUS) by county commissioners</li> <li>• Bases' interest in security puts constraints on communications</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DoD restricting public use</li> <li>▪ INRMPs not available on websites</li> <li>• Stove-piping money and people</li> <li>• States not seeing the value in all the bases, only the “big” ones</li> <li>• Universal issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of understanding of sovereign immunity</li> <li>▪ Overload of information stalls communication</li> <li>▪ Difficulty in getting the right people to the table</li> <li>▪ Personnel come from different points on the geographic and professional spectrum</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Internal issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Insufficient staff to deal with NR issues</li> <li>▪ Agency can have communication breakdowns</li> <li>▪ Internal priorities take precedence without consideration of external needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• External issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of interaction with publicly owned lands</li> <li>▪ Unapproachable regulatory perception of installations</li> <li>▪ Political issues associated with lands</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>III. Possible means to overcome communication barriers between states, installations and DoD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure leadership support and participation</li> <li>• Identify needs and resources to address roles of each party to ensure effective meetings</li> <li>• Promote professional networking to improve communication and create projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bolster internal relationships within local staff, state, federal, and DoD</li> <li>▪ Highlight positive partnerships to establish impetus and motivation for continued partnering</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Modify rules and policies to ease communication</li> <li>• Formalize the communication systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sign Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)</li> <li>▪ Create workgroups</li> <li>▪ Increase the use of listservs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Standardize service and base requirements for INRMP development process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management</li> <li>▪ Funding</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Create organizational processes guidelines &amp; methods of communicating</li> <li>• Establish performance standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build personnel performance standard into the system</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Meet on a regular basis, and monitor meeting fruitfulness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Annual FWS, state and DoD reviews</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find common topics that share and support NR for the partners</li> <li>• Brief state agency and FWS through range tours</li> <li>• Invite states to participate more</li> </ul>
IV. Proposed methods to integrate DoD species at risk into State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine current obligations by all participants</li> <li>• Combine partnerships and encourage the sharing of information through outreach efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Become familiar with each other's plans</li> <li>▪ Compare stakeholder lists and ensure lists being used are common to both state and federal</li> <li>▪ Recognize mutual goals</li> <li>▪ Create joint grant proposals</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Add state G-1 and G-2 species at the five year review</li> <li>• Include the state species in INRMPs, as a pre-emptive measure to avoid them entering the Threatened and Endangered (T&amp;E) species list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify high priority species</li> <li>▪ Identify appropriate poster species for the audience</li> <li>▪ Develop monitoring efforts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) for multiple species and habitat scales(e.g.: Quail initiative)</li> <li>• Increase cross-training between states, DoD and FWS</li> <li>• Establish level of understanding through MOUs</li> <li>• Maintain communication for annual reviews of the two plans</li> </ul>
V. Ways that DoD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation and vice versa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate educational outreach and in-reach for both sides</li> <li>• Encourage INRMPs project that support the SWAPs and vice versa</li> <li>• Get projects into INRMPs and secure funding</li> <li>• Collaborate state and DoD efforts on buffer land purchasing (adjacent and T&amp;E species)</li> <li>• Maximize use of DoD resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use DoD to serve as donor site for species transplanting</li> <li>▪ Provide volunteers</li> <li>▪ Use Public Affairs Office (PAO) to distribute information</li> <li>▪ Host meetings</li> <li>▪ Assist in regional work for species, even off DoD lands using MOUs, cooperative agreements, etc</li> <li>▪ Share equipment (heavy moving, burning, etc.)</li> <li>▪ Share technical expertise</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Implement the plans and cross-walk them both</li> <li>• Integrate SWAPs into INRMPs</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help DoD strategize spending so that they can maximize Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) funding</li> <li>• Leverage resources and partnerships to ensure smart spending</li> <li>• Recognize strengths and weaknesses of either party and collaborate to maximize strengths</li> <li>• Identify lands/areas for possible preservation/conservation</li> <li>• Create partnership between States and DoD to strengthen public trust</li> <li>• Share information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Post SWAPs (States)</li> <li>▪ Post INRMPs (DoD)</li> <li>▪ Geographic info</li> <li>▪ Species status data</li> <li>▪ Regional species data</li> <li>▪ Coordinate work-plans</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>VI. Possible management plans (i.e. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc.) that could be integrated into INRMPs/SWAPs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USFWS species recovery plans</li> <li>• Local wetlands mitigation plans</li> <li>• NGO organization plans</li> <li>• Migratory Bird Plans</li> <li>• National Wildlife Plans</li> <li>• Identify stakeholders and use the plans with those stakeholders (eg: partners in flight)</li> <li>• Look for successful examples</li> <li>• Local Power- recognizing the power, control or lack thereof of the local government</li> <li>• Partners for Wildlife</li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy (TNC)</li> <li>• National Association of Counties (NACo)/ The Conservation Fund (TCF) Training</li> <li>• Land Use Comprehensive Plans (local level)</li> <li>• Safe Harbor</li> <li>• Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs)</li> <li>• Regional initiatives and watershed plans</li> <li>• Refuge plans</li> <li>• Species recovery plans</li> <li>• Gap analysis for plans</li> <li>• Bringing in new partners and resources</li> <li>• Zoning plans</li> <li>• State and federal agency land plans</li> <li>• Joint Venture Plans</li> </ul>

After a short break, the entire group assembled for dinner and discussion. Participants were encouraged to sit with others that they might be interested in working with in the future. During the meal, Dave Chadwick spent a few minutes describing the projects that have materialized from some of the regional planning workshops that he has attended. He encouraged the groups to think broadly and to brainstorm as many ideas as possible- ranging from data sharing to the creation of brand new projects that would tackle new concerns (*Appendix G*).

## Day Two -- May 10, 2006

Day two began with some brief instructions for the day's assignments by Kim Fleming. The participants considered which projects they would like to pursue, based on the ideas generated the evening before. After discussion, four pilot projects were identified and guiding questions were provided to the groups, though they were encouraged to think of all possible questions that had to be answered – from potential partners to funding sources (*Appendix H*).

The four pilot project created were:\*

### (1) ***Invasive Species*** (South Carolina & expanding)

This group will take a closer look at Clear Zone Habitat Conversion. They intend to coordinate communication between interested parties to consider test projects that can replace invasive species, while not hindering native species/BASH. The group views this as a win-win situation for wildlife conversion as well as for the military. Additional states may be added as necessary.

### (2) ***Species at Risk*** (North Carolina (additional states may be added after initial survey))

This group will assess and determine the most important Species at Risk (and associated habitats) along the North Carolina coast. Through partnerships with US FWS, DoD, USDA and others, this group hopes to preclude listing of the identified species. After an initial survey, this group will likely expand into South Carolina and encompass the southeast coast.

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### **(3) *Florida Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies/ INRMP Articulation Project***

The focus of this group is on developing ways in which to better facilitate INRMP reviews/process under the requirements of the Sikes Act. The group also intends to discuss the integration of Florida's Wildlife Action Plan with installation INRMPs. Finally, the group would like to institute annual meetings in three regions (Eglin AFB, NAS Jacksonville and Avon Park) to coordinate all planning efforts.

### **(4) *The Georgia Project***

This group's initial focus is to identify lands of mutual interest and discuss ways in which to protect them in order to meet everyone's mission needs. Areas to be focused on are the habitat of gopher tortoise and other threatened and endangered species, as well as species at risk that are of interest to the entire group.

After each group reported on their specific project ideas and goals, the group as a whole was asked to consider the next steps for the entire group. The following considerations and potential next steps\*:

- Construct a space on DENIX for information posting
- Send thank you letters from Mr. Beehler and Secretary Ross to the supervisors of the attendees
- Coordinate similar workshops in other locations (smaller, more species driven)
- Follow-up meeting for the large group in 12-18 months
  - Present success stories from original 4 pilot project ideas
  - Present success stories/project ideas derived from smaller workshops
  - Coordinate in conjunction with another conference (e.g. Range Conference, NFWFA Workshop)

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- Other partners that should be included in next meeting:
  - Avon Park Air Force Range
  - Fort Jackson
  - State of Alabama
  - National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
  - The Nature Conservancy/ Trust for Public Lands/ other NGOs
  - Other Federal agencies as appropriate

After the discussion of follow-up actions and next steps, Bruce Beard provided some closing remarks and thanked all the attendees for their active participation.

## **Appendix A**

### **Participant List**



## **Appendix B**

### **Dave Chadwick's Presentation**

May 2006



## Action Plans for Every State



*The Nation's Core Program for  
Preventing Wildlife from Becoming  
Endangered in Every State.*



## State Wildlife Grants

### How It Works:

- Allocated by formula to every state  
→ Population + Area
- Non-federal match  
25% for planning  
50% for implementation
- Annual appropriations



# Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program

## How It Works:

- Allocated by formula to every state  
→ Population + Area
- 25% Non-federal match
- Conservation, Education, Recreation, Law Enforcement, Research
- Dedicated funding



## Wildlife Action Plans

Working together to conserve wildlife and natural areas for future generations



# Wildlife Action Plans

Minimum Legal  
Requirement

*The  
Opportunity*



Outline how state  
plans to use SWG  
funding

*Engage Partners in  
a Strategic Vision  
for Wildlife  
Conservation*

## Eight Required Elements

1. **Wildlife** distribution and abundance, focused on species of greatest need
2. **Habitat** location and condition
3. **Problems** and research needs
4. **Conservation Actions** and priorities



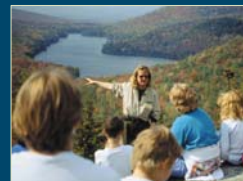
## Eight Required Elements

5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Plans to **Review and Revise**
7. **Coordination** with other agencies, planning efforts
8. Broad **public participation**



## Wildlife Action Plans

Historic  
*and*  
Structured  
*but*  
Flexible





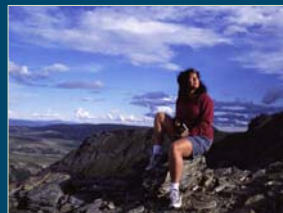
## Keeping It Off the Shelf

- More Funding
- Operational Planning and Integration
- Coordination with Partner Agencies
- Policy and Regulatory Changes





## Wildlife For Future Generations





## **Appendix C**

### **Peter Boice's Presentation**

# Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) and the Sikes Act Improvement Act

L. Peter Boice  
DoD Conservation Team  
Leader

## Sikes Act Improvement Act of 1997

- Enacted November 18, 1997
  - Product of three-plus years of discussion
  - Agreed to by DoD, USFWS, IAFWA
- **Authorizes** DoD to carry out a program for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on military installations

## Need for Amendments

- Broaden scope of DoD's natural resources program
- Integrate program with operations & training
- Embrace tenets of conservation biology
- Invite public review
- Strengthen funding for conservation

## Key Elements

- SECDEF directed to carry out natural resources program...
  - Previous program discretionary, self-imposed, and dictated by internal policy
  - Previous program focused on fish and game conservation
    - ...unless installation not home to **significant natural resources**

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Military Departments required to prepare **and implement** INRMPs for relevant installations
  - Broader in scope than cooperative plans
  - “Must fund” requirements
- INRMPs prepared in cooperation with DoI/FWS and State fish and wildlife agencies
  - Anticipated a truly collaborative

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- INRMP shall reflect “mutual agreement” of the parties
  - Goal: agreement on entire plan
  - Requirement: agreement on elements of plan within scope of USFWS and State’s legal authority
- Sikes Act neither enlarges nor diminishes parties' legal authorities

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Required elements of plan:
  - Natural resources management
  - Sustained **multi-purpose** use
  - Habitat enhancement
  - Integration of activities
  - Public access and sustainable public use
  - Specific goals and objectives
- Plus requirements from DoDI

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Program and INRMP must:
  - Be consistent with the use of installations to ensure military preparedness; and
  - Ensure **no net loss** in capability of installations **to support military mission**

## Procedural Requirements

- Provide opportunity for public comment on INRMP
- Cooperative development
- 5-year reviews
- SECDEF annual Report to Congress

## Cooperative Development: Partnering with USFWS and States

- Involvement and review includes:
  - Evaluating impacts on fish and wildlife
  - Ensuring consideration of fish and wildlife resources in installation planning activities
  - Identifying opportunities to enhance fish and wildlife while accomplishing other mission objectives
  - Providing technical assistance to ensure proper consideration of fish and wildlife

## Bottom Line

- **Congress** expects that:
  - Plans will be developed cooperatively;
  - Plans will be implemented; and
  - Public will have access to installations to enjoy natural resources...
  - But military preparedness CANNOT be compromised

## Other SAIA Features

- Ensures sufficient numbers of professionally trained natural resource managers
- Authorizes fee collection for hunting and fishing permits
- Authorizes cooperative agreements
- Authorizes conservation law enforcement
- 1998 amendment: Disabled Sportsmen's Access

## Endangered Species Act and INRMPs

- ESA requires consultation on actions that “may affect”
- USFWS believes consultation required even for beneficial effects
- USFWS may encourage installations to introduce species or enhance habitat but:
  - No net loss of military lands
  - No species introduction w/o command approval

## Critical Habitat Designation and INRMPs

- Section 318 of FY 2004 National Defense Authorization Act
- Precludes designation of critical habitat on military lands if .....
  - INRMP provides a benefit to the species for which critical habitat is being designated



## Migratory Bird Treaty Act and INRMPs

- Section 315 of FY 2003 National Defense Authorization Act
- Provides exemption from MBTA for **military readiness activities**:
  - Will be covered by USFWS Final Rule
  - Confer on significant adverse effects on populations of concern
  - INRMPs must address migratory birds
- EO 13188 MOU will govern other activities

## Encroachment and INRMPs

- 10 USC 2684a
- DoD may enter into cooperative agreements to acquire real estate interests:
  - With States, other Federal agencies and conservation organizations
  - To preserve habitat that prevents incompatible land use

## Related INRMP Tools

- DoD Implementing Guidance
- Handbook: DoD Resources for INRMP Implementation
- Report: Best Practices for INRMP Implementation
- Course: Best Practices for Developing, Reviewing and Revising INRMPs
- INRMP Template
- Conservation Metrics
- Handbook: Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands

## Some DoD Priorities

- Emphasize regional or ecosystem-based projects
- Avoid future species listings
- Identify priority conservation areas
- Establish conservation easements
- Manage invasive species

## Questions?

[Peter.Boice@osd.mil](mailto:Peter.Boice@osd.mil)

<http://www.osd.denix.mil> ⇨ DoD  
[Conservation Program](#)

<http://www.dodlegacy.org>

<http://www.serdp.org>

## **Appendix D**

### **Pete Campbell's Presentation**

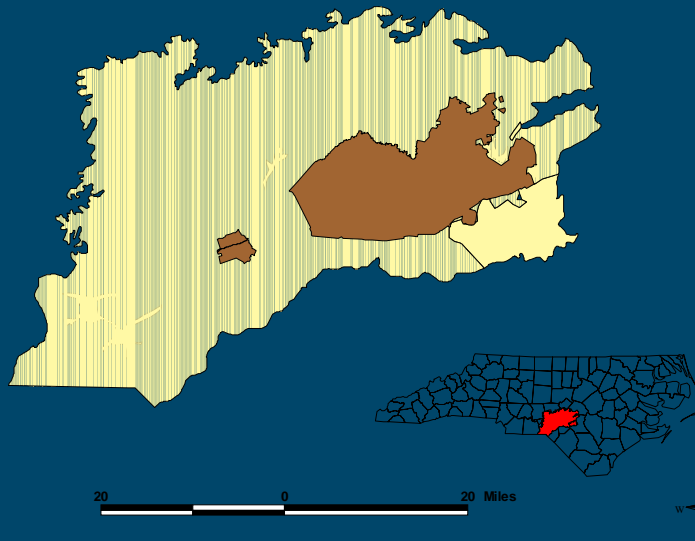


# The North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership:

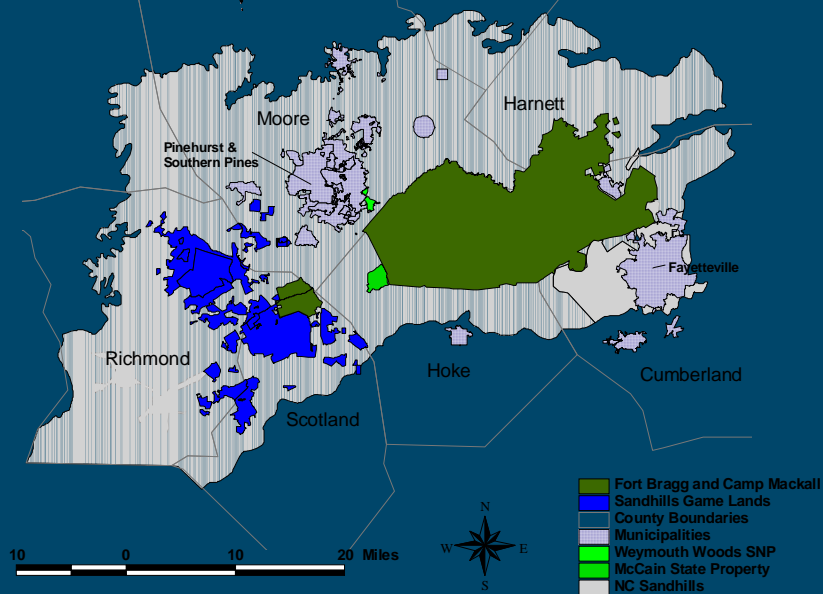
Designing and Implementing a  
Regional Landscape-Based  
Conservation Plan

- ▶ **Background**
- ▶ **Process**
- ▶ **Accomplishments**

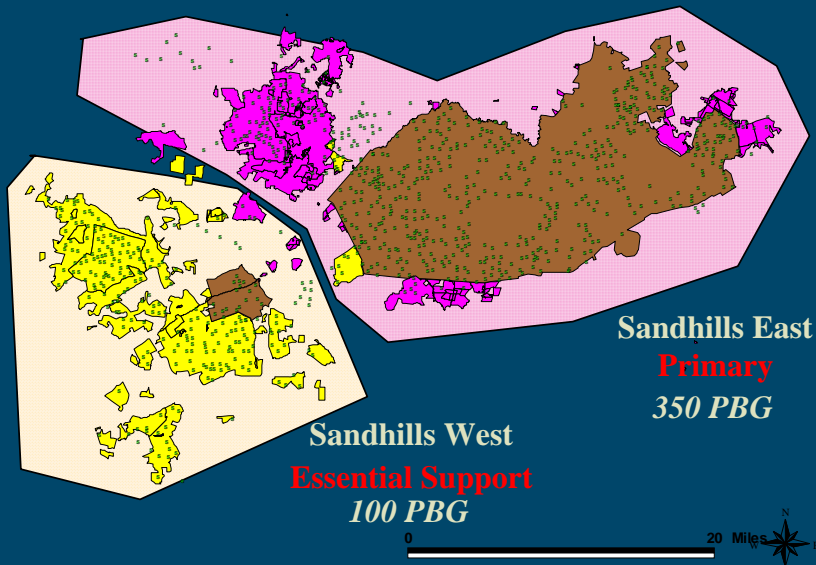
# North Carolina Sandhills



# NC Sandhills Public Land Base



## NC Sandhills RCW Populations



## Mission of the NCSCP

*“Coordinate the development and **implementation** of conservation strategies for the red-cockaded woodpecker, other native biota, longleaf pine and other ecosystems in the Sandhills of North Carolina compatible with the land use objectives of the partners.”*

September 2000

## North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership Primary Stakeholders

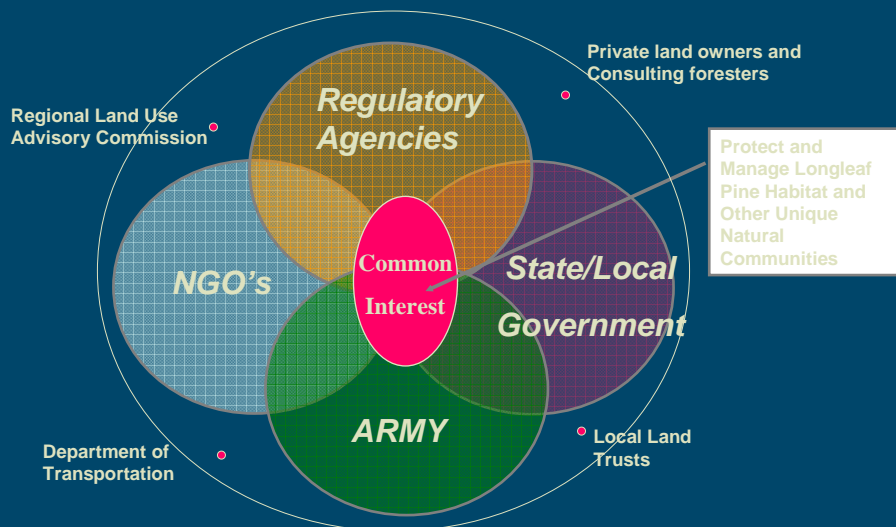


## Examples of Other Stakeholders

- State Agencies
  - NC Natural Heritage Program
  - NC Division of Forest Resources
  - NC Dept. of Transportation
- Counties and Local Governments
  - Regional Land Use Advisory Commission
    - County
    - Municipal



## Compatibility Among Partners is the “Key” to Success



## Conservation Center of the Sandhills



- ❖ *US Fish and Wildlife Service*
- ❖ *The Nature Conservancy*
- ❖ *Sandhills Area Land Trust*
- ❖ *Army Environmental Center*

## *NCSCP Goals*

- Identify and protect key components of the longleaf pine landscape
- Leverage limited financial resources
- Provide opportunities for collaborative management of both public and private lands
- Promote sustainable land use practices on private lands
- Integrate conservation goals into regional land use planning venues

## Conservation Planning Process

- Develop a landscape-level reserve design for the NC Sandhills
- Implement a specific recovery strategy for NC Sandhills RCW population.
- Establish protective buffers adjacent to important conservation lands
  - Prevent encroachment
  - Stabilize core of RCW populations
- Create wildlife habitat corridors connecting existing conservation lands

## Conservation Planning Process

- Sustain extensive regional database and high level GIS capability to support planning and implementation
- Plan regionally and implement locally
  - Support of Counties, municipalities and the public
- Comprehensive Strategy addresses:
  - **LAND PROTECTION**
  - **LAND MANAGEMENT**
  - Land use
  - Communication

## Conservation Protection Strategy

- Buffer public and other conservation lands and create wildlife habitat corridors between conservation lands by:
  - Purchasing key parcels from willing sellers based on priorities derived from reserve design
  - Securing conservation easements from donors or willing sellers
  - Entering into cooperative management agreements with private landowners
  - Safe Harbor

## NCSCP Accomplishments

- **Land Protection**

- **Acquired** over 12,000 Acres of land for habitat protection/training/public use
- brought 23 additional RCW clusters under protection
- protected southern boundary and other important training areas on Fort Bragg
- 49,000 acres of private land enrolled in Safe Harbor providing habitat for 56 RCW clusters

## Restoring the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem A Long-Term Commitment

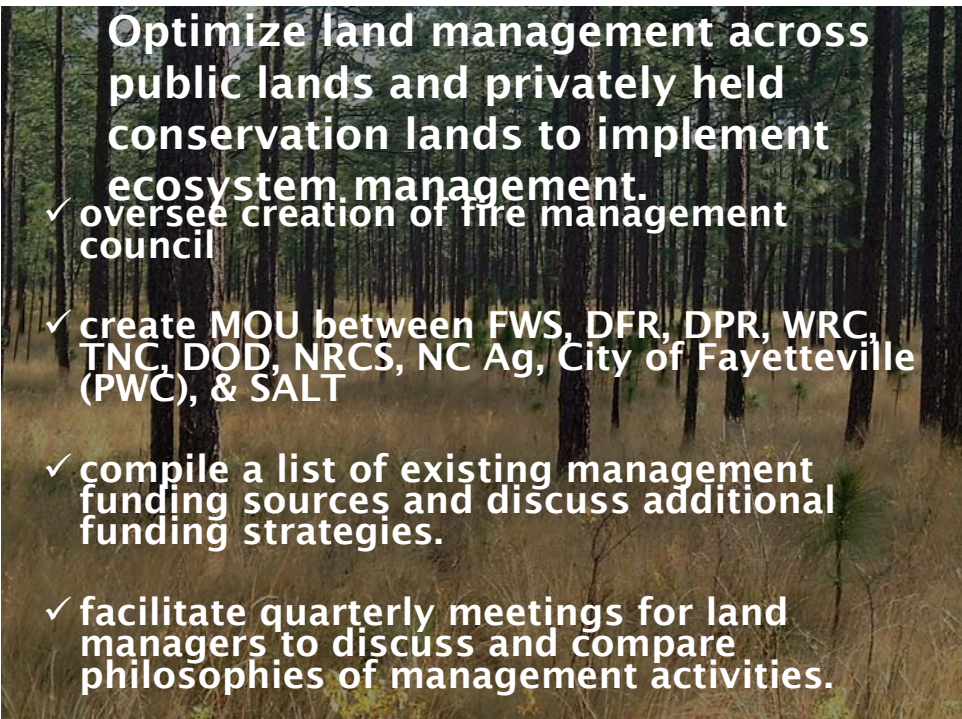






## Resource Management Working Group Goals

- ❖ Optimize land management across public lands and privately held conservation lands to implement ecosystem management.
- ❖ Facilitate good stewardship on private lands (including industrial lands) to promote ecosystem management.
- ❖ Evaluate adaptive management approach to ecosystem management at the landscape level.

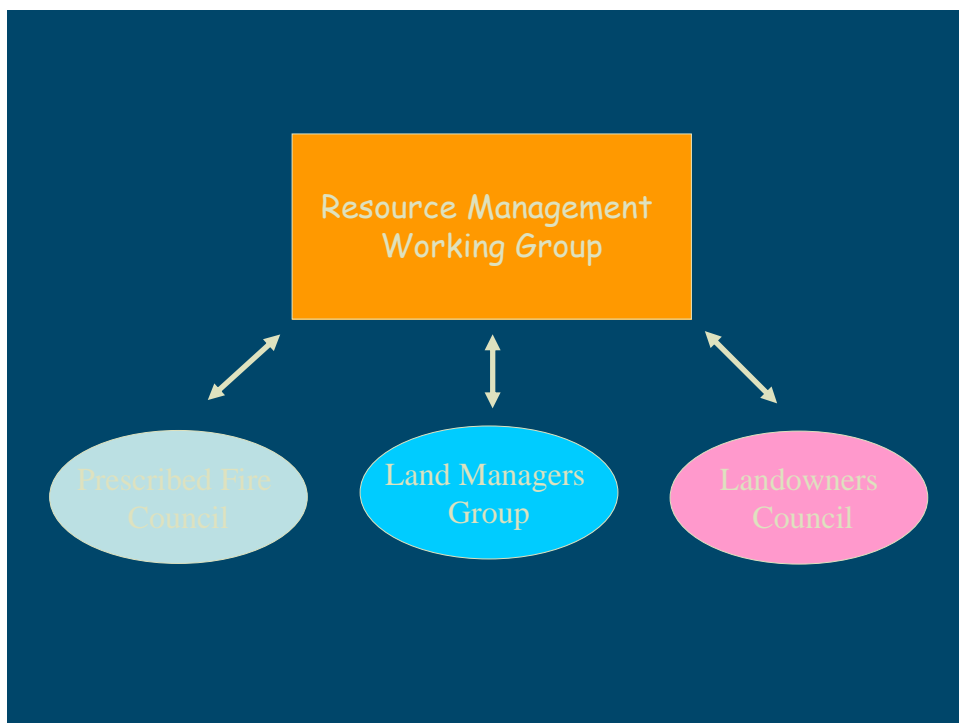


Optimize land management across public lands and privately held conservation lands to implement ecosystem management.

- ✓ oversee creation of fire management council
- ✓ create MOU between FWS, DFR, DPR, WRC, TNC, DOD, NRCS, NC Ag, City of Fayetteville (PWC), & SALT
- ✓ compile a list of existing management funding sources and discuss additional funding strategies.
- ✓ facilitate quarterly meetings for land managers to discuss and compare philosophies of management activities.

# Land Management Strategies

- Landscape Approach
- Long-term Management Agreements among stakeholder groups
- Goal is to manage across ownerships at the landscape level



## Managing the Longleaf Pine Forest with Fire



fire-suppressed habitat



prescribed fire



open midstory

## Forest Management on Public and NGO Conservation Lands

- Midstory hardwood removal
- Planting longleaf pine seedlings
- RCW Cavity installation
- **Prescribed Fire – the primary land mgmt. tool**
  - Fort Bragg burns ~ 65,000 acres/year
  - NCWRC Sandhills Game Land burns ~ 15,000 acres/year
  - Weymouth Woods SNP burns ~ 300 acres/year
  - TNC burns ~ 3000 acres/year

## Management on Private Lands

- Safe Harbor: 91 Agreements; 48,127 acres; protects habitat supporting 56 active RCW sites
- Over \$200,000 obligated for on-the-ground management under FWS and NRCS Habitat Improvement Agreements
  - Prescribed burns
  - Hardwood removal in existing longleaf pine stands
  - Planting longleaf pine seedlings
  - RCW Cavity installation

## NCSCP Actions Benefit the Public

- ~2,800 acres added to Sandhills Game Land plus additional 2,468 acres enrolled in the WRC Game Land program
- First Cumberland County State Park
- New lands available for outdoor recreation and education
  - Hiking, hunting, fishing, biking etc.
- All American Trail providing public access to conservation lands





***“A thing is right when it tends  
to preserve the integrity,  
stability and beauty of the  
biotic community. It is wrong  
when it tends otherwise.”***

*Aldo Leopold*

## **Appendix E**

### **John Townsend's Presentation**

# North Carolina Onslow Bight Conservation Forum

**Cooperative Regional Conservation to  
Enhance Biodiversity and Restore Ecosystems**

**John Townson- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune**



## Onslow Bight Location



# Onslow Bight Landscape



Pocosins

Wet Savannahs





**Long Leaf Pine and Wiregrass**



### **What prompted the formation of Onslow Bight Conservation Forum in 2001?**

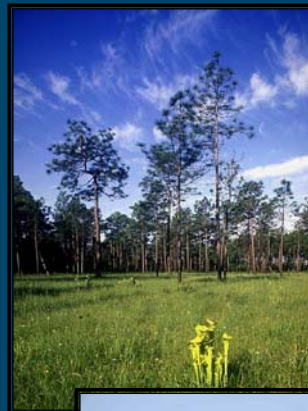
- **Camp Lejeune's Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan**
- **Headquarters Marine Corps concern about encroachment**
- **State of NC support for Camp Lejeune**
- **Opportunity to conserve 2500 acres near key training ranges**

## Onslow Bight Participants

- NC Dept. Env. & Natural Resources
- The Nature Conservancy
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- Natural Res.Cons. Service
- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
- Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point
- Endangered Species Coalition
- NC Wildlife Resource Commission
- NC Coastal Land Trust
- NC Dept of Transportation
- Ducks Unlimited

## Onslow Bight Mission

**...to develop and implement a strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biological diversity and ecosystem sustainability throughout the Onslow Bight Landscape compatible with the land use objectives of the partners.**





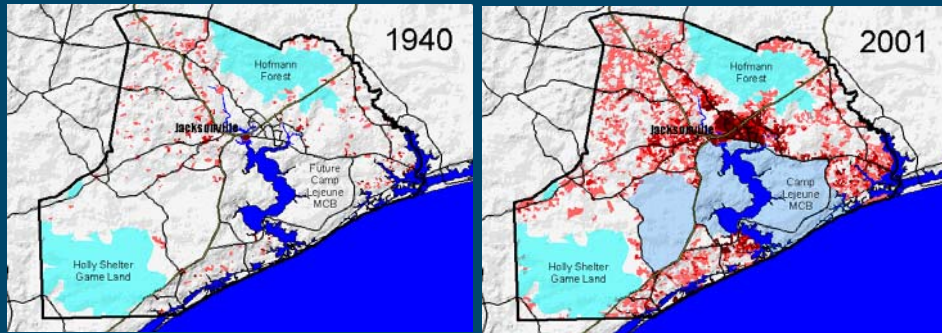
## Onslow Bight Goals

- to encourage public/private partnerships among participating agencies private landowners
- to promote the conservation, restoration, health and sustainable use of the landscape
- to enhance coordination among participants

## Onslow Bight Goals, cont.

- to encourage an on-going regional dialogue among participants about sustainable land management and native biodiversity
- to ensure the sustainability of the military mission in the Onslow Bight Landscape by preserving land uses suitable to military training

# Urbanization and Camp Lejeune



## Main Goals for Camp Lejeune

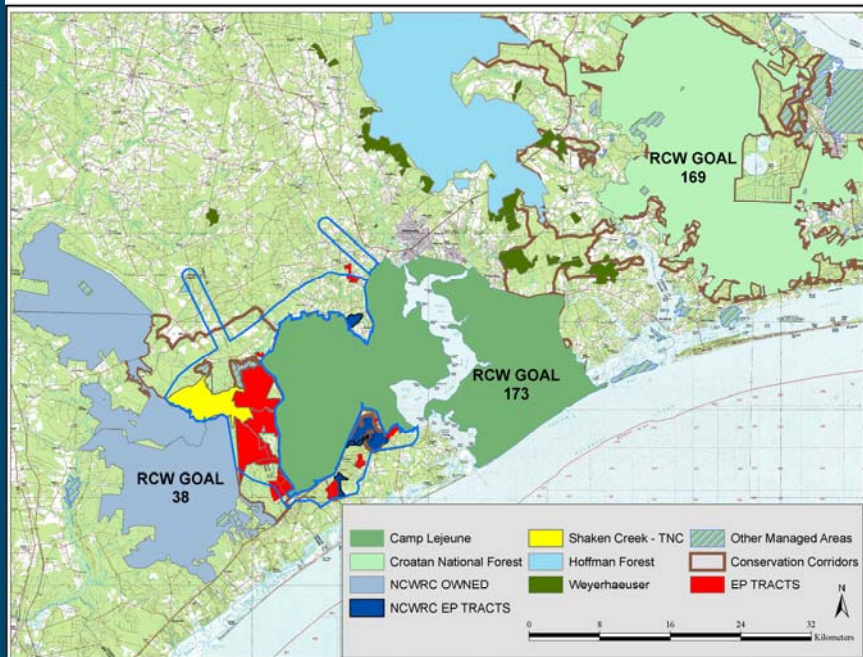
- Ensure compatible land use in the vicinity of key training ranges
- Minimize future environmental restrictions on military mission



# Onslow Bight Conservation Targets

- Rare Species
- Longleaf Pine & Pocosin Ecosystems
- Upland Hardwood Forests
- Floodplain Forests
- Wetlands & Shorelines
- Barrier Islands & Estuaries





## **Appendix F**

### **Breakout Questions- Day One**

## **Breakout Group Instructions- Day One**

In your groups, consider the following questions and discuss various answers/approaches. Be prepared to choose your top 2-3 answers per question to share with the entire group. Write these answers (one per sheet) on the half-sheets of paper provided.

- List 3 or more benefits to integrating INRMPs and State Wildlife Action Plans processes/information
- Identify communication barriers between states, installations and DoD
- Can these barriers be overcome? And if so, how (on a local level and national level)?
- How can we integrate DoD species at risk into State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa? How can we effectively share that information?
- Identify ways that DoD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation (posting information used to create these docs on FTP sites? etc?) and vice versa.
- What other management plans (i.e. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc.) could be integrated into INRMPs/State Wildlife Action Plans

## **Appendix G**

### **Potential Pilot Ideas- Day One**

## Potential Pilot Ideas- Day 1

- GA Invasive Species Project
- Biodiversity Project
- Sandhills Project in western side of Fort Benning
  - DOT mitigation bank
  - Gopher Tortoise, federal listed plant -- acquisition
  - Mitigation area for Gopher Tortoise
    - Stall listing
    - Tie into ACUB
    - Maybe include eastern GA
- NE FL Peninsula Strategic Conservation Initiative -- utilize partnership already in place to serve as jumping off point
- Species at Risk Project
  - Land Managers in Eastern NC to develop top 5 Species at Risk list
  - Develop one list from all agencies/interested parties
  - Widen scope of current SAR Legacy Project
- Corridors How to Guide Project
- Marine Mammals (Near shore and Off Shore species/Right Whales) Project
- Gulf Sturgeon Project
- Near Shore Territorial Waters Project
- GA Action Plan Project -- funding to support projects
- Onslow Bight Conservation Forum Support Project
- State Wildlife Grant Money Pilot Projects
  - Avon Park -- species in regards to BRAC
  - Could serve as model for more long term projects
- RCW Recovery Burden Project
  - Camp Lejeune
  - Reduction by working with state, FWS, etc
  - Same for Fort Benning
  - Spread share burden of conservation (not wise to wholly depend on DoD for \$ for conservation lands)
- Funding Source Project
  - Tap all funding sources
  - Stitch together project based on this
  - Non-federal inclusion/matching is critical
- How can State Wildlife Agencies/ Action Plans help identify Strategic priorities? Opportunities? Consistent funding?
- Invasive Species/BASH Project
  - Replacement of invasive species with native species
  - Without causing a BASH problem
- Buffer Issues Project -- work with Fort Jackson
- Bottom land Hardwoods / Grey Bats Project
- Public Managed Lands Project -- If don't buffer and manage them there is going to be problems (forests and farms as well)

- Developer Project
  - Problem with developers purchasing land in response to BRAC gainers and increased population and increase \$ influx into area
  - Project would look into this and what needs to occur to address this issue
- Department of Commerce Project
  - Division of community assistance
  - This is an unusual partner
  - Consider non-typical partners
- Deed Disclosure Project
- Partnership Template Project
  - Develop template on how to form a partnership
  - Use Gulf Plain Ecosystem as a model

## **Appendix H**

### **Breakout Questions- Day Two**



## **Breakout Group Instructions- Day Two**

You are now in groups of your own choosing based on the pilot project ideas presented last night at dinner. First, identify a recorder for the group. Then discuss the logical “next steps” to move your pilot project forward: What is the main goal, who will be involved, where will your project take place, etc.? Keep in mind the overarching ideas discussed yesterday, as well as the following additional questions:

- What other organizations could contribute and partner with this proposed plan?
- What tools/techniques/information is needed to enhance these partnerships?
- What possible sources of funding are available for your project?

**State Wildlife Action Plan  
&  
Integrated Natural Resource  
Management Plan  
Workshop**

**May 9-10, 2006  
Atlanta, Georgia**



**Agenda**  
**State Wildlife Action Plan and**  
**Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan Workshop**  
**May 9-10, 2006 -- Atlanta, Georgia**  
**Ritz Carlton**

**Purpose:** To gather information on and to facilitate the integration of Department of Defense (DoD) Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) with State Wildlife Action Plans

**Meeting Outcome:** Identification of a pilot project in each state that can be implemented and integrates State Wildlife Action Plans and INRMPs

**May 9th – Day 1 (Salon I and II)**

- |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30 – 8:00   | Breakfast                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 8:00 – 8:25   | Welcome/Introductions – Why are we here? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Bruce Beard (Assistant Director, Environmental Readiness)</li><li>• Mr. Alex Beehler (Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health))</li><li>• Secretary Bill Ross (Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environment &amp; Natural Resources)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8:25 – 8:40   | Overview of State Wildlife Action Plans (Mr. Dave Chadwick)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8:40 – 8:55   | Overview of INRMPs (Mr. Peter Boice)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 8:55 – 9:30   | DoD – Wildlife Agency Collaboration: What does it look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Overview (Mr. Scott Van Horn)</li><li>• NC Sandhills Conservation Partnership (Mr. Pete Campbell)</li><li>• NC Onslow Bight Conservation Forum (Mr. John Townson)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 9:30 – 9:45   | Break Out Session Instructions (Ms. Kim Fleming)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9:45 – 10:15  | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 10:15 – 12:00 | Breakout Groups<br>Objectives of Break Out Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• List 3 or more benefits to integrating INRMP and State Wildlife Action Plans processes/information</li><li>• Identify communication barriers between states, installations and DoD</li><li>• Can these barriers be overcome? And if so, how (on a local level and national level)?</li><li>• How can we integrate DoD species at risk into State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa? How can we effectively share that information?</li><li>• Identify ways that DoD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation (posting information used to create these docs on FTP sites? etc?) and vice versa.</li><li>• What other management plans (i.e. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc.) could be integrated into INRMPs/State Wildlife Action Plans</li></ul> |

## **Agenda Continued**

- |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Non-Working Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1:00 – 2:30  | Breakout Groups (continued)                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2:30 – 3:00  | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3:00 – 5:00  | Breakout Groups Report Out                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 5:00 – 6:00  | Free Time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6:00 – 8:00  | Dinner at the Ritz Carlton (Congress Room) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post project ideas/interests (actual integration of INRMPs and State Wildlife Actions Plans)</li><li>• Identify 5-6 project ideas/interests</li></ul> |

## **May 10th – Day 2 (Salon I and II)**

- |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30 – 8:00   | Breakfast                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 8:00 – 8:30   | Full Group Gathering- Overview of Day Two Objectives (Ms. Kim Fleming)                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 8:30 – 11:00  | Break Out Groups (take break as needed)<br>Objectives of Break Out Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify way forward on pilot projects identified on Day One</li><li>• Discuss Funding and what is available</li></ul> |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Pilot Project Report Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identification of Action Items</li><li>• Necessary Follow Up/Next Steps</li></ul>                                                                                        |
| 12:00 – 1:00  | Working Lunch / Workshop Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identification of Overall Action Items</li><li>• Necessary Overall Follow Up/Next Steps</li><li>• Funding Sources</li></ul>                                      |
| 1:00          | Departure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |



## List of Attendees

Name	Title	Organization
David Allen	Coastal Faunal Diversity Supervisor	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Jon Ambrose, PhD.	Assistant Chief	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division
Jason Ayers	Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- SC
Bruce Beard	Assistant Director, Environmental Readiness	Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment)
Tim Beaty	Chief, Fish and Wildlife Branch	Fort Stewart (Army)
Peter Boice	DoD Conservation Team Leader	Office of the Secretary of Defense
Hugh Boyter	Biological Scientist IV	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Chris Burkett	State Wildlife Grants Liaison	US FWS- Washington Office
Pete Campbell	Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- NC
Dave Chadwick	Wildlife Diversity Associate	IAFWA
Kathy Chapman	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- GA
Steve Covell	Natural Resources Program Manager	Air National Guard- Readiness
Hal Balbach	Research Biologist	US Army Engineer Research and Development Center
Bob Decker	Natural Resources Specialist	Army Headquarters
Billy Drawdy	Head Natural Resources Branch	NAVFAC South (Navy)
Ed Eudaly	Biologist	US FWS- SC
Kim Fleming	Senior Consultant	Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment)/ Booz Allen Hamilton
Mark Gibson	Natural Resources Manager	NAS Pensacola/ NAS Whiting Field (Navy)
Susan Gibson	Army Regional Environmental Coordinator	Southern Regional Environmental Office (Army)
Lew Gorman	DoD Liaison	US FWS- Washington Office
Jimi Gragg	Wildlife Legacy Initiative Biologist	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Bruce Hagedorn	Supervisory Biologist	Eglin AFB (Air Force)
John Hammond	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- NC
Bryan Henderson	Conservation Chief	Seymour Johnson AFB/Dare County Bombing Range (Air Force)
Laura Henze	National Sikes Act Coordinator	US FWS- Washington Office
Barbara Howe	Environmental Planner	CNRSE (Command Navy Region South East)

## List of Attendees

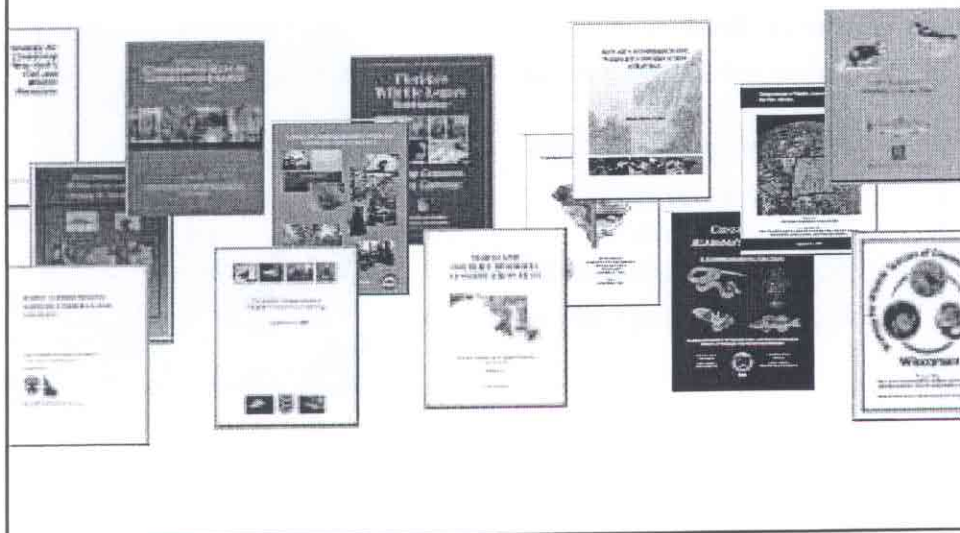
Kate Hutson	Consultant	Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment)/ Booz Allen Hamilton
Ulgonda Kirkpatrick	Biological Scientist	Camp Blanding (Army National Guard)
Dennis Krusac	Endangered Species Specialist	USDA Forest Service
Frank Lands	Forester	Installation Management Agency (Army)
John Milio	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- FL
Terry Myers	Natural Resources Manager	Fort Bragg (Army)
Jim Ozier	Wildlife Biologist	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division
Steve Parris	Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist	US FWS- GA
Lynn Quattro	CWCS Project Leader	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Jenn Rinehart	CWCS Project Leader	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Mark Salvato	Biologist	US FWS- FL
Tom Sinclair	Fisheries Program Supervisor- Region 4 Sikes Act Coordinator	US FWS
Bill Spicer	Chief of Naval Installations	Navy Headquarters
Robin Sutherland	Environmental Planning & Conservation	Patrick AFB (Air Force)
Pete Swiderek	Chief, Conservation Branch	Fort Benning (Army)
Bill Tate	Fishery Biologist	US FWS- FL
John Townson	Natural Resources Manager	Camp Lejeune (US Marine Corps)
Scott Van Horn	Aquatic Non-Game Supervisor	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
		Federal Highway Administration

# Wildlife Action Plans: A Resource for Conservation Partners

May 2006

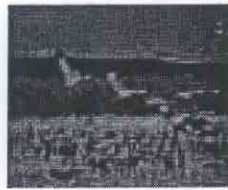
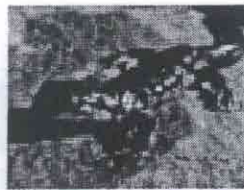


## Action Plans for Every State





*The Nation's Core Program for  
Preventing Wildlife from Becoming  
Endangered in Every State.*



## State Wildlife Grants

**How It Works:**

- Allocated by formula to every state  
→ Population + Area
- Non-federal match  
25% for planning  
50% for implementation
- Annual appropriations





## Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program

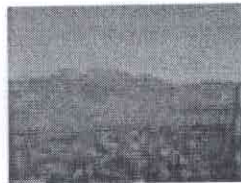
### How It Works:

- Allocated by formula to every state  
→ Population + Area
- 25% Non-federal match
- Conservation, Education, Recreation, Law Enforcement, Research
- Dedicated funding



## Wildlife Action Plans

Working together to conserve  
wildlife and natural areas  
for future generations



## Wildlife Action Plans

**Minimum Legal Requirement**

*The Opportunity*

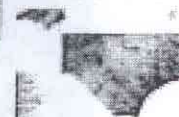


Outline how state plans to use SWG funding

*Engage Partners in a Strategic Vision for Wildlife Conservation*

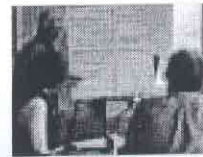
## Eight Required Elements

1. **Wildlife** distribution and abundance, focused on species of greatest need
2. **Habitat** location and condition
3. **Problems** and research needs
4. **Conservation Actions** and priorities



## Eight Required Elements

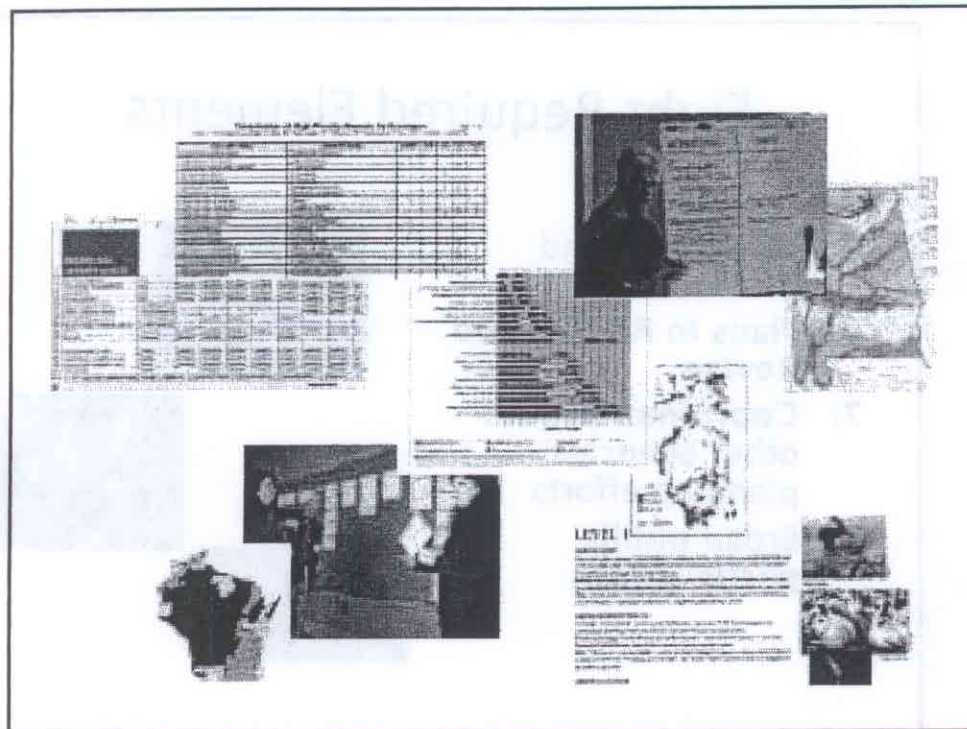
5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Plans to **Review and Revise**
7. **Coordination** with other agencies, planning efforts
8. Broad **public participation**



## Wildlife Action Plans

Historic  
*and*  
Structured  
*but*  
Flexible

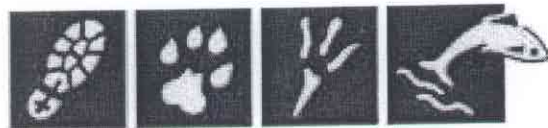




## Keeping It Off the Shelf

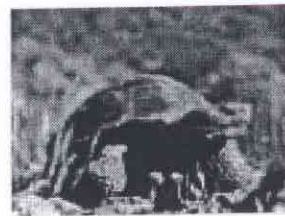
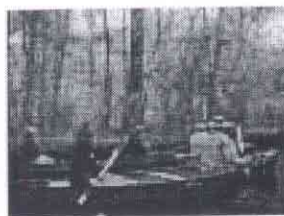
- More Funding
- Operational Planning and Integration
- Coordination with Partner Agencies
- Policy and Regulatory Changes





**TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE**  
*a natural investment*

## Wildlife For Future Generations





# **Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) and the Sikes Act Improvement Act**

L. Peter Boice  
DoD Conservation Team Leader

## **Sikes Act Improvement Act of 1997**

- Enacted November 18, 1997
  - Product of three-plus years of discussion
  - Agreed to by DoD, USFWS, IAFWA
- Authorizes DoD to carry out a program for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on military installations

## Need for Amendments

- Broaden scope of DoD's natural resources program
- Integrate program with operations & training
- Embrace tenets of conservation biology
- Invite public review
- Strengthen funding for conservation

## Key Elements

- SECDEF directed to carry out natural resources program...
  - Previous program discretionary, self-imposed, and dictated by internal policy
  - Previous program focused on fish and game conservation
- ...unless installation not home to significant natural resources

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Military Departments required to prepare and implement INRMPs for relevant installations
  - Broader in scope than cooperative plans
  - “Must fund” requirements
- INRMPs prepared in cooperation with DoI/FWS and State fish and wildlife agencies
  - Anticipated a truly collaborative process

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- INRMP shall reflect “mutual agreement” of the parties
  - Goal: agreement on entire plan
  - Requirement: agreement on elements of plan within scope of USFWS and State’s legal authority
- Sikes Act neither enlarges nor diminishes parties’ legal authorities



## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Required elements of plan:
  - Natural resources management
  - Sustained multi-purpose use
  - Habitat enhancement
  - Integration of activities
  - Public access and sustainable public use
  - Specific goals and objectives
- Plus requirements from DoDI
  - Embrace principles of ecosystem mgmt

## Key Elements

[CONTINUED]

- Program and INRMP must:
  - Be consistent with the use of installations to ensure military preparedness; and
  - Ensure no net loss in capability of installations to support military mission

## **Procedural Requirements**

- Provide opportunity for public comment on INRMP
- Cooperative development
- 5-year reviews
- SECDEF annual Report to Congress

## **Cooperative Development: Partnering with USFWS and States**

- Involvement and review includes:
  - Evaluating impacts on fish and wildlife
  - Ensuring consideration of fish and wildlife resources in installation planning activities
  - Identifying opportunities to enhance fish and wildlife while accomplishing other mission objectives
  - Providing technical assistance to ensure proper consideration of fish and wildlife

## Bottom Line

- Congress expects that:
  - Plans will be developed cooperatively;
  - Plans will be implemented; and
  - Public will have access to installations to enjoy natural resources...
  - But military preparedness CANNOT be compromised

## Other SAIA Features

- Ensures sufficient numbers of professionally trained natural resource managers
- Authorizes fee collection for hunting and fishing permits
- Authorizes cooperative agreements
- Authorizes conservation law enforcement
- 1998 amendment: Disabled Sportsmen's Access

## **Endangered Species Act and INRMPs**

- ESA requires consultation on actions that “may affect”
- USFWS believes consultation required even for beneficial effects
- USFWS may encourage installations to introduce species or enhance habitat but:
  - No net loss of military lands
  - No species introduction w/o command approval

## **Critical Habitat Designation and INRMPs**

- Section 318 of FY 2004 National Defense Authorization Act
- Precludes designation of critical habitat on military lands if .....
  - INRMP provides a benefit to the species for which critical habitat is being designated

## **Migratory Bird Treaty Act and INRMPs**

- Section 315 of FY 2003 National Defense Authorization Act
- Provides exemption from MBTA for military readiness activities:
  - Will be covered by USFWS Final Rule
  - Confer on significant adverse effects on populations of concern
  - INRMPs must address migratory birds
- EO 13188 MOU will govern other activities

## **Encroachment and INRMPs**

- 10 USC 2684a
- DoD may enter into cooperative agreements to acquire real estate interests:
  - With States, other Federal agencies and conservation organizations
  - To preserve habitat that prevents incompatible land use

## **Related INRMP Tools**

- DoD Implementing Guidance
- Handbook: DoD Resources for INRMP Implementation
- Report: Best Practices for INRMP Implementation
- Course: Best Practices for Developing, Reviewing and Revising INRMPs
- INRMP Template
- Conservation Metrics
- Handbook: Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands

## **Some DoD Priorities**

- Emphasize regional or ecosystem-based projects
- Avoid future species listings
- Identify priority conservation areas
- Establish conservation easements
- Manage invasive species

## Questions?

[Peter.Boice@osd.mil](mailto:Peter.Boice@osd.mil)

<http://www.osd.denix.mil> ⇨ DoD Conservation  
Program

<http://www.dodlegacy.org>

<http://www.serdp.org>

## Some DoD Priorities

- Establish regional or ecosystem level priorities
- Prioritize future species listings
- Identify priority conservation areas
- Establish conservation easements
- Develop conservation plans





## ***The North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership:***

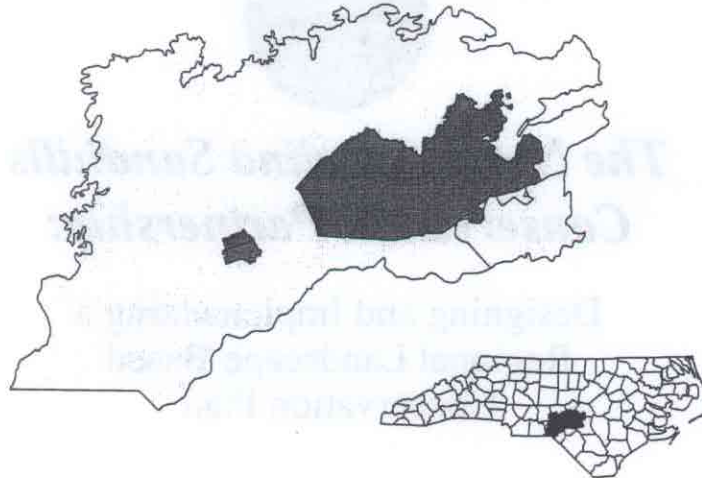
Designing and Implementing a  
Regional Landscape-Based  
Conservation Plan



- ▶ **Background**
- ▶ **Process**
- ▶ **Accomplishments**



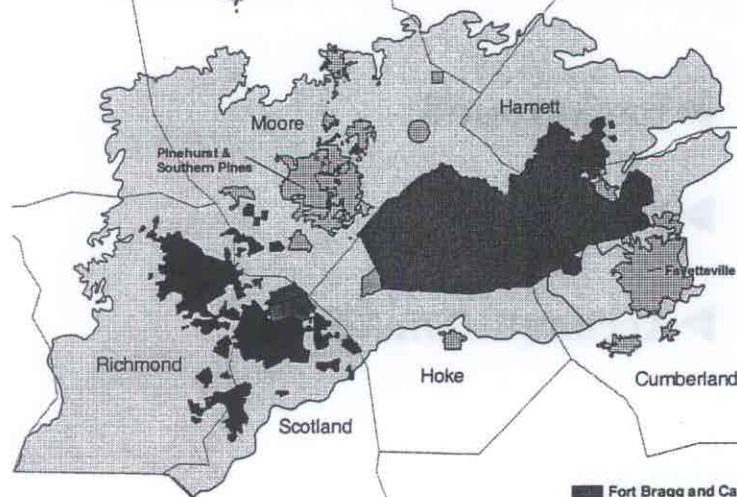
# North Carolina Sandhills



20 0 20 Miles



# NC Sandhills Public Land Base

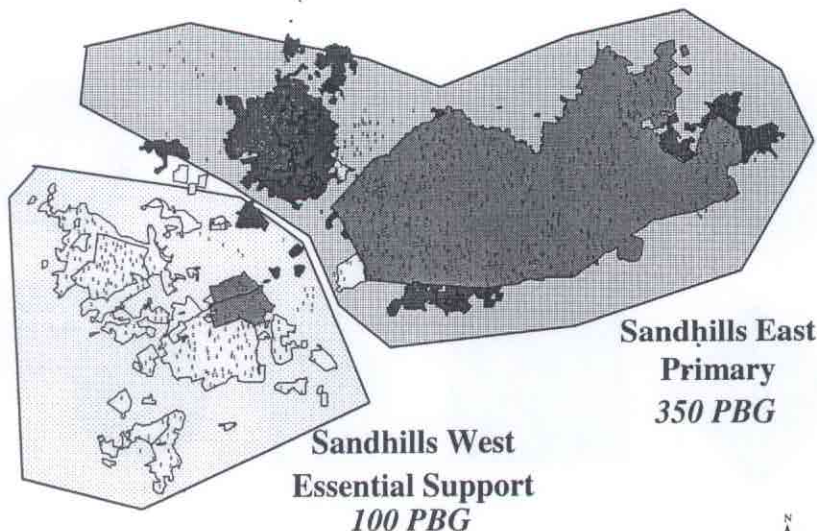


10 0 10 20 Miles



- Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall
- Sandhills Game Lands
- County Boundaries
- Municipalities
- Weymouth Woods SNP
- McCain State Property
- NC Sandhills

## NC Sandhills RCW Populations



## Mission of the NCSCP



*“Coordinate the development and implementation of conservation strategies for the red-cockaded woodpecker, other native biota, longleaf pine and other ecosystems in the Sandhills of North Carolina compatible with the land use objectives of the partners.”*

September 2000

## North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership Primary Stakeholders

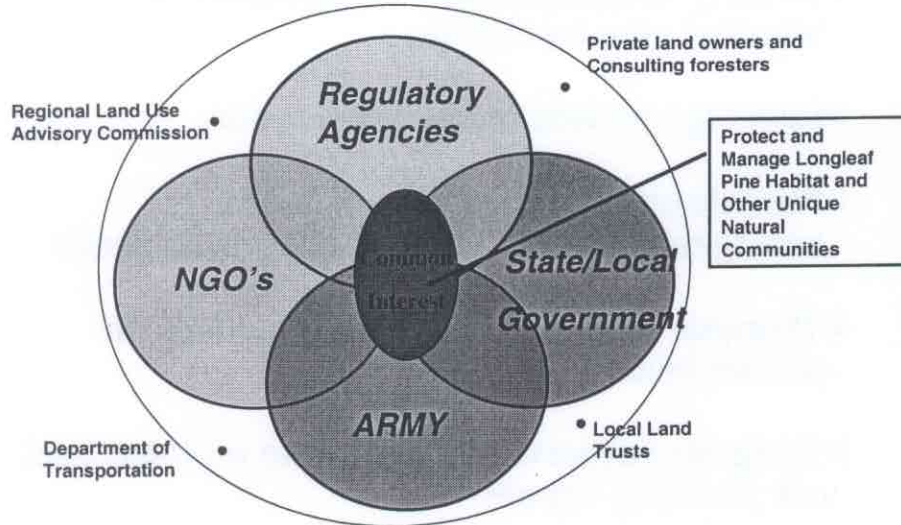


## Examples of Other Stakeholders

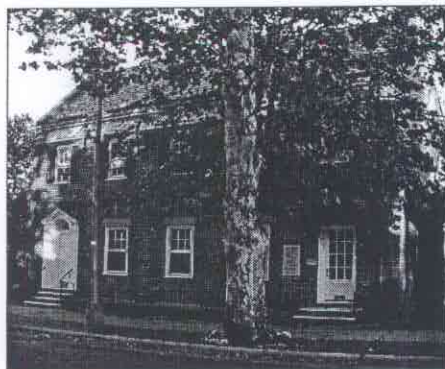


- State Agencies
  - ✓ NC Natural Heritage Program
  - ✓ NC Division of Forest Resources
  - ✓ NC Dept. of Transportation
- Counties and Local Governments
  - ✓ Regional Land Use Advisory Commission
    - County
    - Municipal

## Compatibility Among Partners is the "Key" to Success



## Conservation Center of the Sandhills



- ❖ *US Fish and Wildlife Service*
- ❖ *The Nature Conservancy*
- ❖ *Sandhills Area Land Trust*
- ❖ *Army Environmental Center*



## ***NCSCP Goals***



- Identify and protect key components of the longleaf pine landscape
- Leverage limited financial resources
- Provide opportunities for collaborative management of both public and private lands
- Promote sustainable land use practices on private lands
- Integrate conservation goals into regional land use planning venues

## ***Conservation Planning Process***



- Develop a landscape-level reserve design for the NC Sandhills
- Implement a specific recovery strategy for NC Sandhills RCW population.
- Establish protective buffers adjacent to important conservation lands
  - ✓ Prevent encroachment
  - ✓ Stabilize core of RCW populations
- Create wildlife habitat corridors connecting existing conservation lands

## *Conservation Planning Process*



- Sustain extensive regional database and high level GIS capability to support planning and implementation
- Plan regionally and implement locally
  - ✓ Support of Counties, municipalities and the public
- Comprehensive Strategy addresses:
  - ✓ **LAND PROTECTION**
  - ✓ **LAND MANAGEMENT**
  - ✓ Land use
  - ✓ Communication

## *Conservation Protection Strategy*



- Buffer public and other conservation lands and create wildlife habitat corridors between conservation lands by:
  - ✓ Purchasing key parcels from willing sellers based on priorities derived from reserve design
  - ✓ Securing conservation easements from donors or willing sellers
  - ✓ Entering into cooperative management agreements with private landowners
  - ✓ Safe Harbor

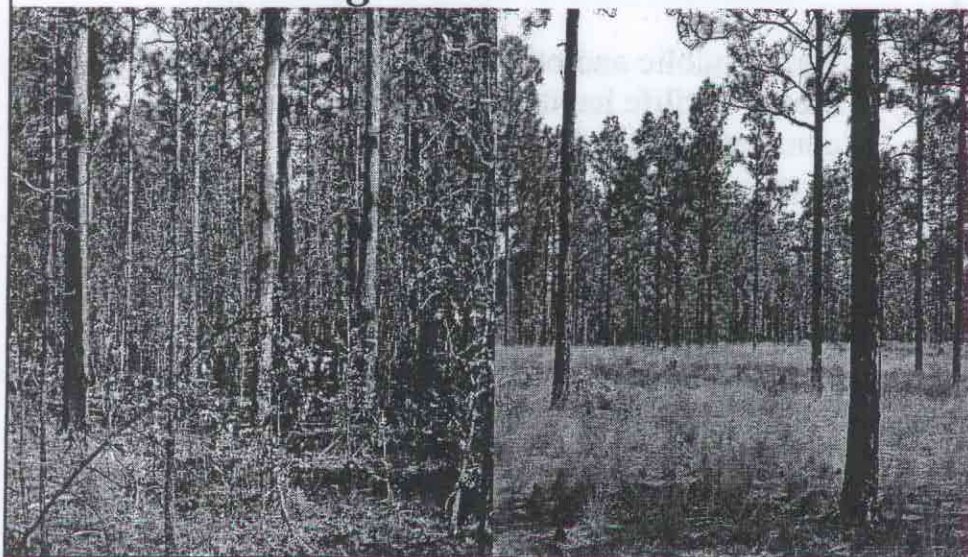
## ***NCSCP Accomplishments***



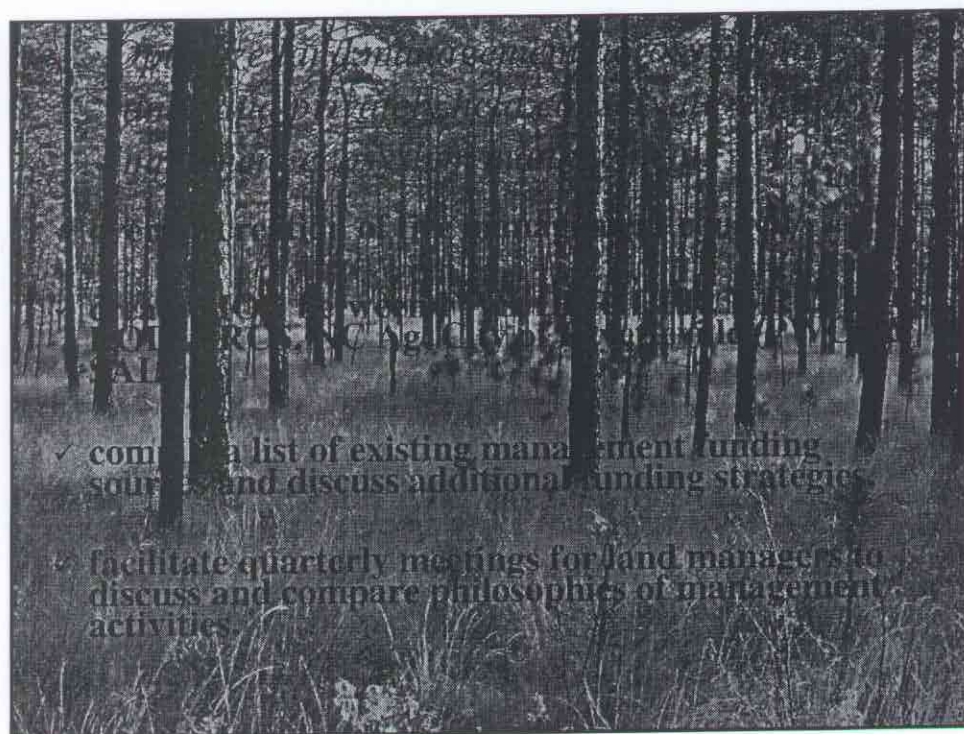
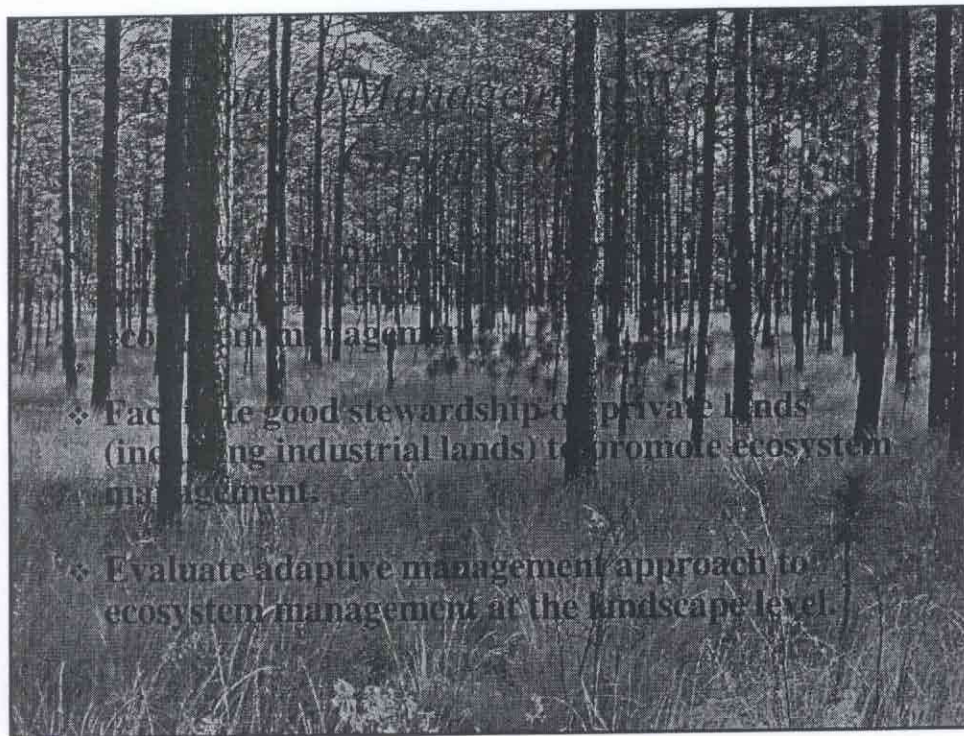
### **► Land Protection**

- ✓ **Acquired** over 12,000 Acres of land for habitat protection/training/public use
- ✓ brought 23 additional RCW clusters under protection
- ✓ protected southern boundary and other important training areas on Fort Bragg
- ✓ 49,000 acres of private land enrolled in Safe Harbor providing habitat for 56 RCW clusters

## ***Restoring the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem A Long-Term Commitment***





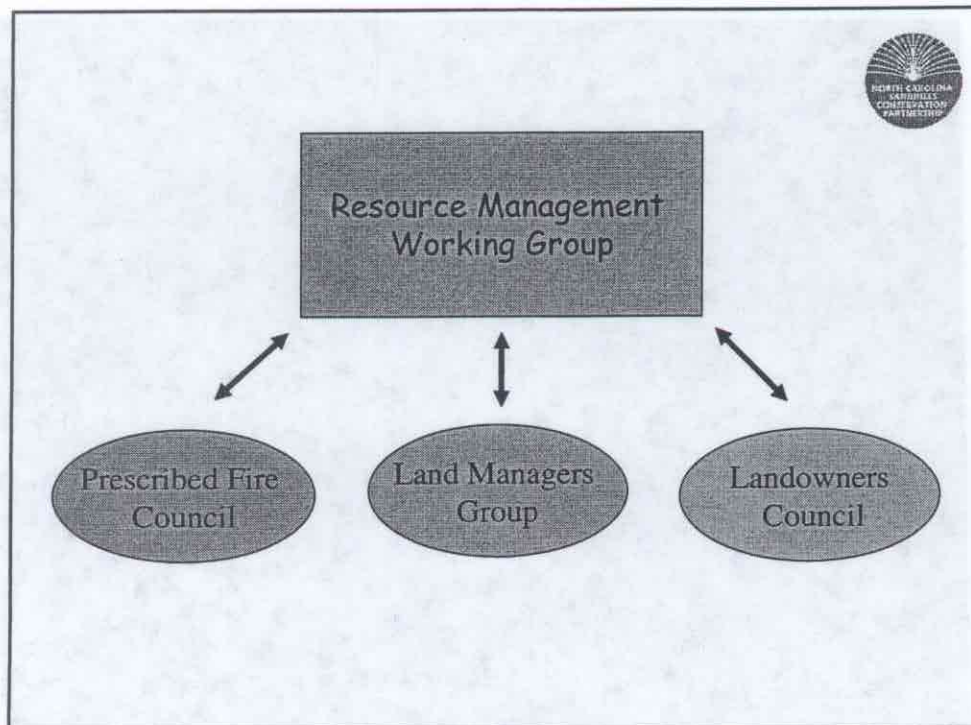




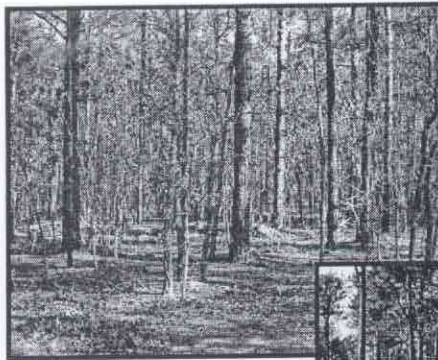
## *Land Management Strategies*



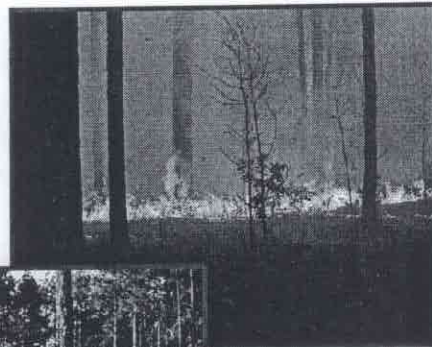
- Landscape Approach
- Long-term Management Agreements among stakeholder groups
- Goal is to manage across ownerships at the landscape level



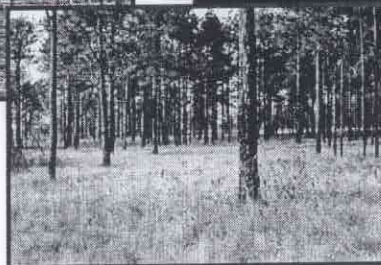
## *Managing the Longleaf Pine Forest with Fire*



fire-suppressed habitat



prescribed fire



open midstory

## *Forest Management on Public and NGO Conservation Lands*



- Midstory hardwood removal
- Planting longleaf pine seedlings
- RCW Cavity installation
- Prescribed Fire – the primary land mgmt. tool
  - ✓ Fort Bragg burns ~ 65,000 acres/year
  - ✓ NCWRC Sandhills Game Land burns ~ 15,000 acres/year
  - ✓ Weymouth Woods SNP burns ~ 300 acres/year
  - ✓ TNC burns ~ 3000 acres/year

## *Management on Private Lands*

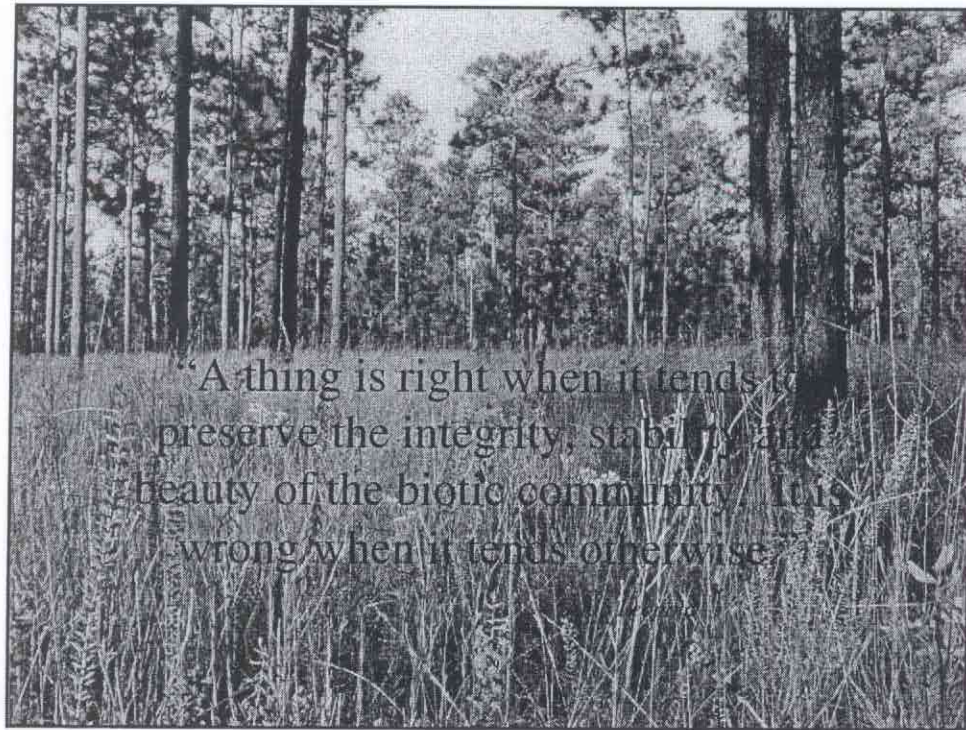


- Safe Harbor: 91 Agreements; 48,127 acres; protects habitat supporting 56 active RCW sites
- Over \$200,000 obligated for on-the-ground management under FWS and NRCS Habitat Improvement Agreements
  - ✓ Prescribed burns
  - ✓ Hardwood removal in existing longleaf pine stands
  - ✓ Planting longleaf pine seedlings
  - ✓ RCW Cavity installation

## *NCSCP Actions Benefit the Public*



- ~2,800 acres added to Sandhills Game Land plus additional 2,468 acres enrolled in the WRC Game Land program
- First Cumberland County State Park
- New lands available for outdoor recreation and education
  - ✓ Hiking, hunting, fishing, biking etc.
- All American Trail providing public access to conservation lands





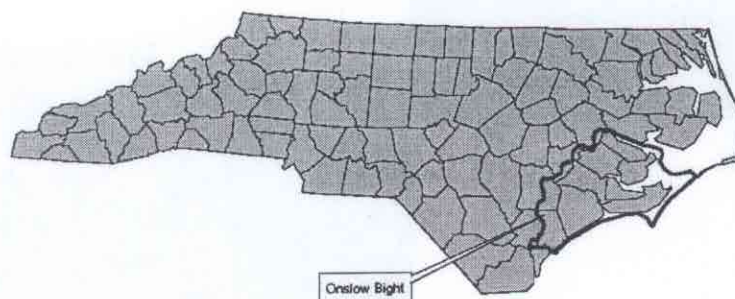
# **North Carolina Onslow Bight Conservation Forum**

**Cooperative Regional Conservation to  
Enhance Biodiversity and Restore Ecosystems**

**John Townson- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune**



## **Onslow Bight Location**



**ONSLOW BIGHT LANDSCAPE**

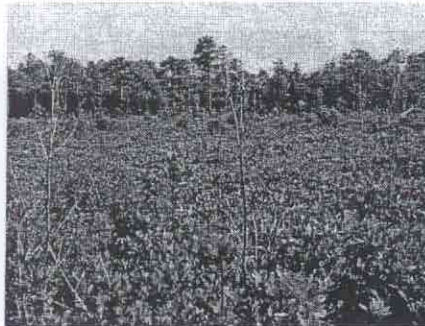
BEAUFORT COUNTY  
 CRAYVEN COUNTY  
 JONES COUNTY  
 LENOIR COUNTY  
 CURRITUCK COUNTY  
 ONSLOW COUNTY  
 CARTERET COUNTY

PROTECTED LANDS  
 FEDERAL  
 PRIVATE  
 STATE

Legend

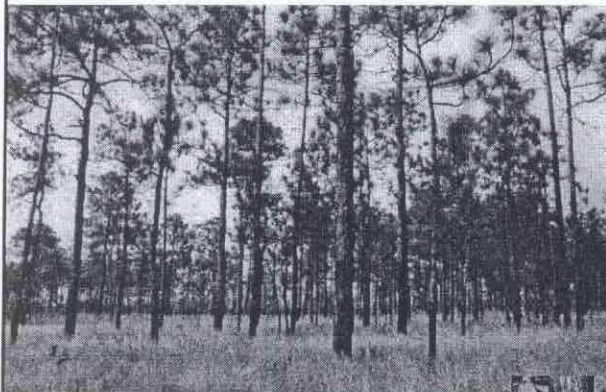
Major Roads  
 County Boundary  
 PROTECTED LANDS  
 FEDERAL  
 PRIVATE  
 STATE  
 Project Boundary

Scale: 0 1 2 3 4 5

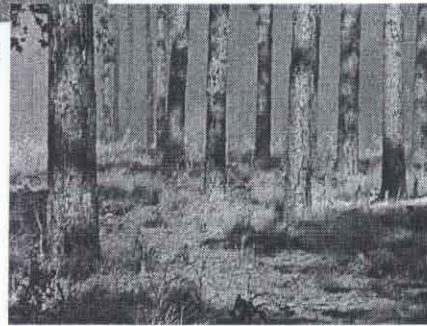


## Wet Savannahs





**Long Leaf Pine and Wiregrass**



**What prompted the formation of Onslow Bight  
Conservation Forum in 2001?**

- **Camp Lejeune's Integrated Natural Resource  
Management Plan**
- **Headquarters Marine Corps concern  
about encroachment**
- **State of NC support for Camp Lejeune**
- **Opportunity to conserve 2500 acres near  
key training ranges**

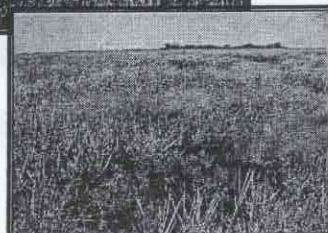


## Onslow Bight Participants

- NC Dept. Env. & Natural Resources
- The Nature Conservancy
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- Natural Res.Cons. Service
- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
- Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point
- Endangered Species Coalition
- NC Wildlife Resource Commission
- NC Coastal Land Trust
- NC Dept of Transportation
- Ducks Unlimited

## Onslow Bight Mission

...to develop and implement a strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biological diversity and ecosystem sustainability throughout the Onslow Bight Landscape compatible with the land use objectives of the partners.





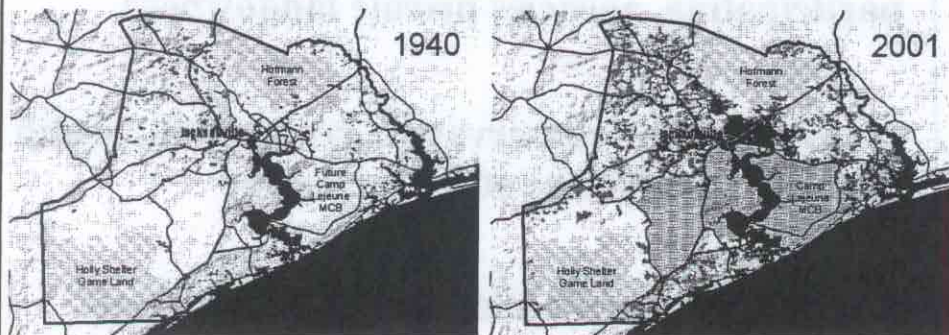
## **Onslow Bight Goals**

- to encourage public/private partnerships among participating agencies private landowners
- to promote the conservation, restoration, health and sustainable use of the landscape
- to enhance coordination among participants

## **Onslow Bight Goals, cont.**

- to encourage an on-going regional dialogue among participants about sustainable land management and native biodiversity
- to ensure the sustainability of the military mission in the Onslow Bight Landscape by preserving land uses suitable to military training

## Urbanization and Camp Lejeune

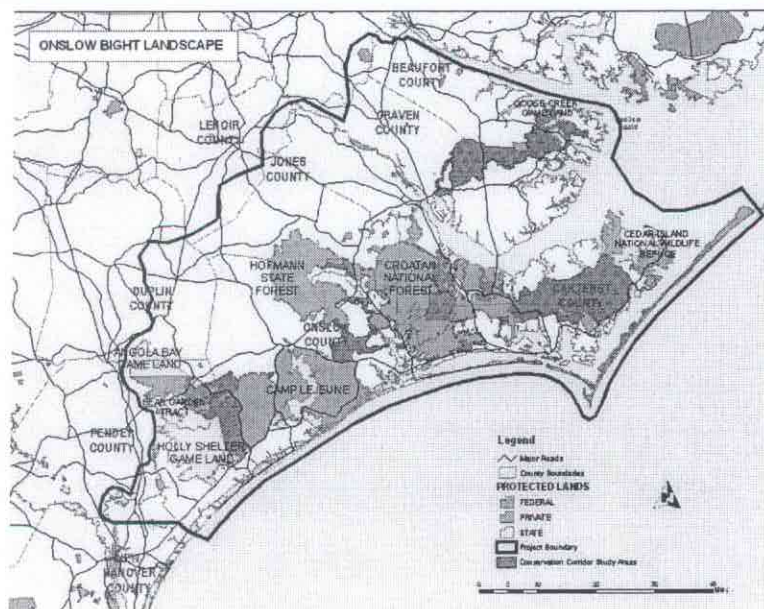
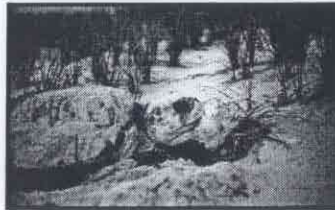
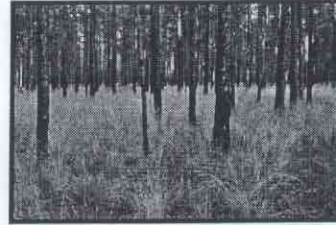


## Main Goals for Camp Lejeune

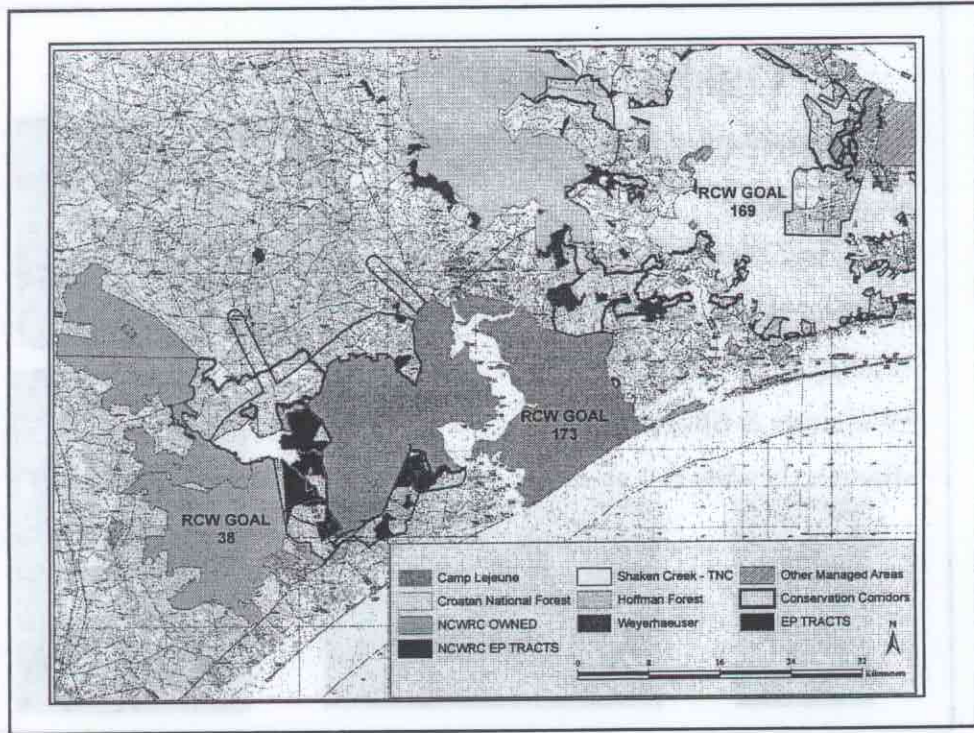
- Ensure compatible land use in the vicinity of key training ranges
- Minimize future environmental restrictions on military mission

## Onslow Bight Conservation Targets

- Rare Species
- Longleaf Pine & Pocosin Ecosystems
- Upland Hardwood Forests
- Floodplain Forests
- Wetlands & Shorelines
- Barrier Islands & Estuaries







## Break Out Groups

### GROUP A

1. Steve Covell
2. Hugh Boyter
3. Hal Balbach
4. Pete Campell
5. Jon Ambrose
6. Dennis Krusac

### GROUP E

1. Chris Burkett
2. James (Jimi) Gragg
3. Pete Swiderek
4. Jason Ayers
5. Tom Sinclair
6. DOT Participant

### GROUP B

1. Bob Decker
2. Jenn Rinehart
3. John Townson
4. Barbara Howe
5. Steve Parris
6. Terry Myers

### GROUP F

1. Dave Chadwick
2. Lynn Quattro
3. Ulgonda Kirkpatrick
4. Billy Drawdy
5. John Hammond
6. Susan Gibson

### GROUP C

1. Peter Boice
2. Jim Ozier
3. Bryan Henderson
4. Mark Gibson
5. John Milio
6. Frank Lands

### GROUP G

1. Lew Gorman
2. David Allen
3. Bruce Hagedorn
4. Tim Beaty
5. Ed Eudaly
6. Mark Salvato

### GROUP D

1. Bill Spicer
2. Laura Henze
3. Scott Van Horn
4. Robin Sutherland
5. Kathy Chapman
6. Bill Tate

# Break Out Group Instructions

## Day One

In your groups, consider the following questions and discuss various answers/approaches. Be prepared to choose your top 2-3 answers per question to share with the entire group. Write these answers (one per sheet) on the half-sheets of paper provided.

- List 3 or more benefits to integrating INRMPs and State Wildlife Action Plans processes/information
- Identify communication barriers between states, installations and DoD
- Can these barriers be overcome? And if so, how (on a local level and national level)?
- How can we integrate DoD species at risk into State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa? How can we effectively share that information?
- Identify ways that DoD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation (posting information used to create these docs on FTP sites? etc?) and vice versa.
- What other management plans (i.e. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc.) could be integrated into INRMPs/State Wildlife Action Plans

## List 3 or more benefits to integrating INRMPs and State Wildlife Action Plans processes/information

In your groups, consider the following questions and discuss various answers/approaches. Be prepared to choose your top 3-5 answers per question to share with the entire group. Write these answers (one per sheet) on the half-sheets of paper provided.

- List 3 or more benefits to integrating INRMPs and State Wildlife Action Plans processes/information
- Identify communication barriers between states, institutions and local
- Can these barriers be overcome? And if so, how (at a local level and national level)?
- How can we integrate DOD aspects of state and State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa? How can we effectively share that information?
- Identify ways that DOD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation (provide information used to create these plans on FIP sites, etc) and vice versa.
- What other management plans (e.g. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc) could be integrated into INRMPs, State Wildlife Action Plans

**Identify communication barriers between states,  
installations and DoD**



**Can these barriers be overcome? And if so, how  
(on a local level and national level)?**

**How can we integrate DoD species at risk into State Wildlife Action Plans and vice versa? How can we effectively share that information?**

Identify ways that DoD could assist states in State Wildlife Action Plans implementation (posting information used to create these docs on FTP sites? etc?) and vice versa

**What other management plans (i.e. USFS Forest Land Management Plans, etc.) could be integrated into INRMPs/State Wildlife Action Plans**

# REPORT OUT NOTES

# REPORT OUT NOTES

## Topics of Interest

- How can Installations partner with States to tap into federal matching-grant programs to support regional conservation initiatives like ACUB?
- Adequate INRMP funding to meet ESMP obligations: INRMPs may incorporate natural resources policy or management that benefits federally-listed species but are not specifically mentioned in the ESMP BA and BO and not included in the BO terms and conditions. In our opinion such requirements are part of the action and must be implemented.
- Shared data and costs for surveys, projects, etc. that are beneficial to military, state, and USFWS
- How each branch of the Service and each installation gets its money for INRMPs and the projects identified in the INRMP
- What role do Installations play in the State's wildlife conservation strategy?
- Increased cooperation to assist installation with listed species recovery burden.
- Increased cooperation to assist each other with natural resource management activities,
- Standardized survey protocol so we can share range-wide data
- Potential to establish a southeastern work group for strategic conservation planning and implementation
- Potential for large-scale multi-partner recovery efforts similar to the red-cockaded woodpecker cooperative work
- Clarify state laws that we have to follow on military bases with regard to plant and animal species that are not listed federally, but are listed by the states
- Clarify permitting requirements for plant and animal relocations, handling, collecting, and other activities
- Defining shared goals between state plans and military Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans
- Brokering effective state employee participation in INRMP development, annual reviews, 5-yr. updates, coordinating with Legacy Initiatives and State Strategies, etc. without federal funding to support this "unfunded mandate". How can we be effective in getting Legacy Initiatives & State Wildlife Strategies inserted into INRMPs and get them implemented when the resources are not there to get it done? Both the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Interior receive earmarked funding for getting the Sikes Act job done, but the states seem to have been left off the funding list. This results in ineffective state-level participation in the Sikes Act process.
- Wildlife agency/DOD collaboration on base encroachment issues - using information from State Wildlife Action Plans to facilitate protection of important wildlife areas adjacent to bases



## Topics of Interest

- Sharing biological inventory and monitoring data
- Looking back 60 years, Installation forests looked a lot like surround forests. Now they are among the last remnants of intact natural communities. Given the fact that military mission needs will have to be given priority over conservation on Installation lands, are they truly secure as conservation assets over the long term (100-1000 years or more), or should they be viewed as short to mid-term assets that can support and augment other lands dedicated to conservation as a primary purpose?
- Natural Heritage Areas
- Fire as Management Tool
- State Listed Species (that are not federally listed)
- Flatwoods Salamander
- Gopher Tortoise
- Shorebirds
- Multi-state/multi-agency conservation agreements for at risk species to preclude the need to list them under ESA
- Beach management, particularly beach nesting birds is at the top of the list
- Other important issues are management of longleaf pine habitats
- Sea turtles
- Since military installations often have large land holdings, shouldn't we be focusing conservation efforts on the T & E species found there and the Species of Concern found on these installations?
- Bald eagle nest site protection and management
- Getting a handle on the nature of federal "immunity" from [i.e., exemptions from the provisions of...] state endangered species laws for military training activities (e.g., bombing within habitat for the Endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow). USFWS can issue federal permits for "incidental take", but some state's laws (e.g., FL) don't allow that, leaving confusion over the legalities. Does the Sikes Act grant the military branches federal immunity from state laws on military bases when pursuing training missions?
- Eglin AFB (our preferred installation for discussion)
- EglinAFB's upland habitat restoration program (we like the program, want to help accelerate & expand it, and particularly want the findings & lessons disseminated broadly)
- Eglin AFB's beaches and dune systems, their post-hurricane recovery, and their preservation in perpetuity
- Eglin AFB's steepheads and ravines, their conservation/restoration (and particularly their water quality and sediment budgets)



## Topics of Interest

- Restoration of Eglin AFB's historically more-open wet and mesic habitats and some of their unique features (e.g. pitcher plant bogs) through aggressive reintroduction of appropriate fire
- Coordination of efforts for wetland, stream, and rare species mitigation - identification of critical areas for protection/restoration
- Now that the States have worked on Priority Habitats and Species, is there a way to direct protection efforts on military bases to coincide with these priorities

# Break Out Group Instructions

## Day Two

You are now in groups of your own choosing based on the pilot project ideas presented last night at dinner. First, identify a recorder for the group. Then discuss the logical “next steps” to move your pilot project forward: What is the main goal, who will be involved, where will your project take place, etc.? Keep in mind the overarching ideas discussed yesterday, as well as the following additional questions:

- What other organizations could contribute and partner with this proposed plan?
- What tools/techniques/information is need to enhance these partnerships?
- What possible sources of funding are available for your project?

# PROJECT NOTES

**PROJECT TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

# PROJECT NOTES

100-1000

# REPORT OUT NOTES

# REPORT OUT NOTES

1. The first part of the report is a summary of the project. This is followed by a description of the methodology used. The results of the study are then presented, followed by a discussion of the findings. Finally, the report concludes with a list of references.

# STATE WAP/INRMP PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

## 1 – Name and Description *Provide the name and a general description of the project*

**Florida Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS) – Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) Articulation Project**

## 2 – Goals and Objectives: *Describe the goals and objectives of the project*

**Goals: Implement a series of regional (coordinated FWS & FWC regions) annual meetings in the State designed to achieve the following goals:**

- **To meet annual INRMP implementation review requirements under the Sikes Act, wherein annual implementation progress is checked [note: this activity for Northeast Florida Navy and Marine facilities is already in place for this purpose at NAS Jacksonville]**
- **To discuss integration of Florida’s CWCS with INRMPs, and vice versa**
- **Eventually, to examine the effectiveness of integrating the CWCS and INRMPs (a second-level compliance check, similar to the Sikes Act compliance check mentioned above).**

**Objectives:**

- *Form a small work group to design a concept to coordinate (articulate) INRMP’s and the CWCS, thereby establishing mutual directions for the state-military planning efforts*
- *Develop and design a series of regional annual meetings to serve as points for coordination of planning efforts*
- *Utilize existing partnerships (and implement new ones) to help accomplish the goals related to articulation among the INRMP’s and the CWCS*

## 3 – Geographic Location *Describe project location. Attach GIS if available*

- Individual military facilities in Florida,
- Regional meeting sites (may vary according to FWS & FWC coordination of design),
- Partnership locales (Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership [GCPEP], Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem Working Group, and Northeast Florida Greenway Partnership [conservation based military encroachment project])

## 4 – Partners *Identify key project partners*

Partner	DoD	State	Local	NGO	Other
FWC (Sikes Act & Legacy Initiative biologists)		<b>X</b>			
Natural Resource Managers @ military installations	<b>X</b>				
Existing Partners in Ecosystem work groups	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

## 5 – Potential Benefits to Partner Mission *Describe project potential for increasing partner mission support through species conservation, habitat corridor development, etc.*

- Coordination & Cooperation in achieving mutual conservation goals for Florida
- Increases in efficiency & effectiveness due to mission-sharing and pooling of resources
- Development of tools for CWCS & INRMP implementation



<b>6 – Anticipated Tools or Products to Implement Project</b> <i>(check all that apply)</i>							
MOA/M OU	Existing Program	Buffer Area Agreement	Education/ Outreach	Academia Involvement	State/Fed Legislation	Maps	Other
X	X		X			X	
<b>7 – Funding and other Resources/Support</b> <i>Provide any details on funding leverage and potential sources of support</i>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible Use of federal Legacy Grants and/or State Wildlife Grant funds to design tools for plan interpretation and implementation and/or to supplement Fish &amp; Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manpower related to Sikes Act / CWCS implementation and coordination</li> </ul>							
<b>8 – List potential short term goals/products and estimated completion date(s)</b>							
<b>Deliverable/Goal</b>						<b>Completion Date</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small group development of model CWCS &amp; INRMP objectives</li> </ul>						8-30-06	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formation of Northeast Florida Greenway Partnership</li> </ul>						2007	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a web-based GIS mapping tool to interpret the CWCS</li> </ul>						2008	
<b>9 – Project POC</b> <i>Please provide full contact information for the Project POC(s)</i>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CWCS – INRMP Articulation:</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Hugh Boyter, BS IV Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 South Meridian Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600 Ph. (850) 922-8862, ext. 17330</p>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northeast Florida Greenway Partnership:</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Barbara Howe Commander, Navy Region Southeast Box 102, Code N45 NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212 Ph. (904) 542-5352</p>							

# STATE WAP/INRMP PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

<b>1 - Name and Description</b> <i>Provide the name and a general description of the project</i>															
SERPPAS Georgia Conservation Forum Project - This project will consist of the organization and facilitation of multiple workshops or forums focused on creating a state-wide collaborative conservation movement involving US military installations, state organizations, and state NGOs in Georgia.															
<b>2 - Goals and Objectives:</b> <i>Describe the goals and objectives of the project</i>															
Goals: This project involves taking an integrated multi-partner approach to developing a state-wide conservation forum in Georgia. The first goal is to support the SERPPAS initiative with specific conservation actions and partnerships in the State of Georgia. The second goal is to foster state-level collaboration and partnering in conservation arena. The third goal is to provide an information sharing forum for people to cross-feed ideas, work together, and develop relationships.															
Objectives: The main objective of this project is to involve representatives of the SERPPAS members from the state of Georgia in the creation of a Georgia Conservation Forum to deal with state-level conservation issues surrounding the Gopher Tortoise, Southeast working landscapes, and the Army's ACUB initiative (Fort Benning, Fort Stewart, Fort Gordon)															
<b>3 - Geographic Location</b> <i>Describe project location. Attach GIS if available</i>															
Georgia															
<b>4 - Partners</b> <i>Identify key project partners</i>															
Partner		DoD		State		Local		NGO		Other					
Ft Stewart, Ft Benning, Ft Gordon, CERL		X													
Georgia DNR, Georgia Forestry Commission, GDOT				X											
TNC, TPL, Nature Conservancy								X							
FWS, Forestry Service, Federal Highway Administration										X					
<b>5 - Potential Benefits to Partner Mission</b> <i>Describe project potential for increasing partner mission support through species conservation, habitat corridor development, etc.</i>															
This project will focus regional conservation efforts and drill down to address state level conservation concerns in Georgia. The effort will elevate the importance of State-level cooperative conservation within DoD as well as externally and will serve as an example of how to transform regional collaborative work into state-level initiatives. Additionally, this project takes a proactive instead of a reactive stance to conservation and endangered species issues which is necessary with the rapid increase in development and population throughout the country.															
<b>6 - Anticipated Tools or Products to Implement Project</b> <i>(check all that apply)</i>															
MOA/ MOU		Existing Program		Buffer Area Agreement		Education/ Outreach		Academia Involvement		State/Fed Legislation		Maps		Other	
X		X		X		X				X		X		X	
<b>7 - Funding and other Resources/Support</b> <i>Provide any details on funding leverage and potential sources of support</i>															
<b>8 - List potential project deliverables or short term goals and estimated completion date(s)</b>															
<b>Deliverable/Goal</b>											<b>Completion Date</b>				
Forum 1 - Establish forum and start to foster state-level collaboration and partnering in conservation arena and provide an information sharing forum for people to cross-feed ideas, work together, and develop relationships											10/01/06				

Forum 2 – Continue to foster state-level collaboration and partnering in conservation arena and provide an information sharing forum for people to cross-feed ideas, work together, and develop relationships	02/01/07
Technical Report 1 - Detail the proceedings of the workshops and the outcomes associated with conservation actions initiated	12/01/06
Technical Report 2 - Detail the proceedings of the workshops and the outcomes associated with conservation actions initiated	03/01/07
<b>9 – Project POC</b> <i>Please provide full contact information for the Project POC(s)</i>	
Susan Gibson, <a href="mailto:Susan.Gibson@sreo.army.mil">Susan.Gibson@sreo.army.mil</a> , 404-524-5061 ext. 277	
Adam Cooper, <a href="mailto:cooper_adam@bah.com">cooper_adam@bah.com</a> , 703-412-7403	

# STATE WAP/INRMP PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

<b>1 - Name and Description</b> <i>Provide the name and a general description of the project</i>							
<b>CAROLINA SPECIES AT RISK (SAR) PROJECT</b>							
<b>2 - Goals and Objectives:</b> <i>Describe the goals and objectives of the project</i>							
Goals: Promote positive conservation actions for SAR and their habitats on and/or near DoD installations in North and South Carolina to help eliminate the need to federally list these species.							
Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Determine the SAR, classified as G1 or G2, on and/or near military installations.</li> <li>II. Identify SAR habitats and map the habitat associations</li> <li>III. Survey SAR habitats/associations for presence/absence of identified SAR</li> <li>IV. Develop a cooperative conservation partnership focused on Carolina SAR</li> <li>V. Draft and promote the development of a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) or CCA with Assurances (CCAA), as appropriate.</li> </ul>							
<b>3 - Geographic Location</b> <i>Describe project location. Attach GIS if available</i>							
Military installations and non-military lands located within the Coastal Plain and Sandhills Physiographic regions of North and South Carolina that contain habitats supporting SAR.							
<b>4 - Partners</b> <i>Identify key project partners</i>							
Partner	DoD	State	Local	NGO	Other		
Military installations	X						
USFWS						X	
NC Wildlife		X					
SC Fish and Game		X					
USDA Forest Service						X	
<b>5 - Potential Benefits to Partner Mission</b> <i>Describe project potential for increasing partner mission support through species conservation, habitat corridor development, etc.</i>							
All SAR on and/or near military installations are included as priority species in the North and South Carolina wildlife action plans. Focusing on these species and their habitats assist DoD with an effort to maintain training unencumbered by restrictions and helps the state natural resource agencies to focus on target species/habitats contained in their wildlife action plans. Working with other state, federal, local and private landowners and stakeholders will increase cooperative conservation efforts and promote positive natural resource actions on behalf of SAR and their habitats.							
<b>6 - Anticipated Tools or Products to Implement Project</b> <i>(check all that apply)</i>							
MOA/ MOU	Existing Program	Buffer Area Agreement	Education/ Outreach	Academia Involvement	State/Fed Legislation	Maps	Other
		X	X			X	CCA/A

<b>7 – Funding and other Resources/Support</b> <i>Provide any details on funding leverage and potential sources of support</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legacy</li> <li>• Farm Bill</li> <li>• USFWS Grants</li> </ul>	
<b>8 – List potential short term goals/products and estimated completion date(s)</b>	
<b>Deliverable/Goal</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
I. Identify targeted SAR	1 months
II. Map SAR habitat associations	12 months
III. Determine presence or absence of SAR on partner property	15 months
IV. Develop cooperative conservation partnership	8 months
V. Develop draft CCA or CCAA	17 month
<b>9 – Project POC</b> <i>Please provide full contact information for the Project POC(s)</i>	
Lew Gorman, USFWS, 703-358-1911-w	

# STATE WAP/INRMP PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

<b>1 - Name and Description</b> <i>Provide the name and a general description of the project</i>							
South Carolina Invasive Species Group							
<b>2 - Goals and Objectives:</b> <i>Describe the goals and objectives of the project</i>							
Goals: Identify areas/potential sites for habitat conversion to clear invasive species while not hindering native species.							
Objectives: To create test projects that can replace invasives or exotics on airstrips to reduce BASH							
<b>3 - Geographic Location</b> <i>Describe project location. Attach GIS if available</i>							
South Carolina, east coast region as needed							
<b>4 - Partners</b> <i>Identify key project partners</i>							
Partner	DoD	State	Local	NGO	Other		
SC DNR		X					
US FWS Invasives Group						X	
DoD Natural Resource Managers	X						
NRCS representatives						X	
Federal Aviation Administration						X	
Audubon Society				X			
BASH working group (from National Military Fish and Wildlife Association)						X	
Armed Forces Pest Management Board	X						
DOT Reps						X	
<b>5 - Potential Benefits to Partner Mission</b> <i>Describe project potential for increasing partner mission support through species conservation, habitat corridor development, etc.</i>							
Working together and pooling resources will enable all parties to derive the benefits associated with BASH reduction and control of invasive species.							
<b>6 - Anticipated Tools or Products to Implement Project</b> <i>(check all that apply)</i>							
MOA/ MOU	Existing Program	Buffer Area Agreement	Education/ Outreach	Academia Involvement	State/Fed Legislation	Maps	Other
	XX		XX			XX	
<b>7 - Funding and other Resources/Support</b> <i>Provide any details on funding leverage and potential sources of support</i>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NFWF</li> <li>INRMP Funding</li> <li>Doris Duke</li> <li>Legacy</li> <li>SWG</li> <li>Natural Resources Reimbursable Funds</li> </ul>							
<b>8 - List potential short term goals/products and estimated completion date(s)</b>							
<b>Deliverable/Goal</b>						<b>Completion Date</b>	
INITIAL MEETING						AUGUST 2006	
<b>9 - Project POC</b> <i>Please provide full contact information for the Project POC(s)</i>							
Lynn Quattro (803) 734-9094							

